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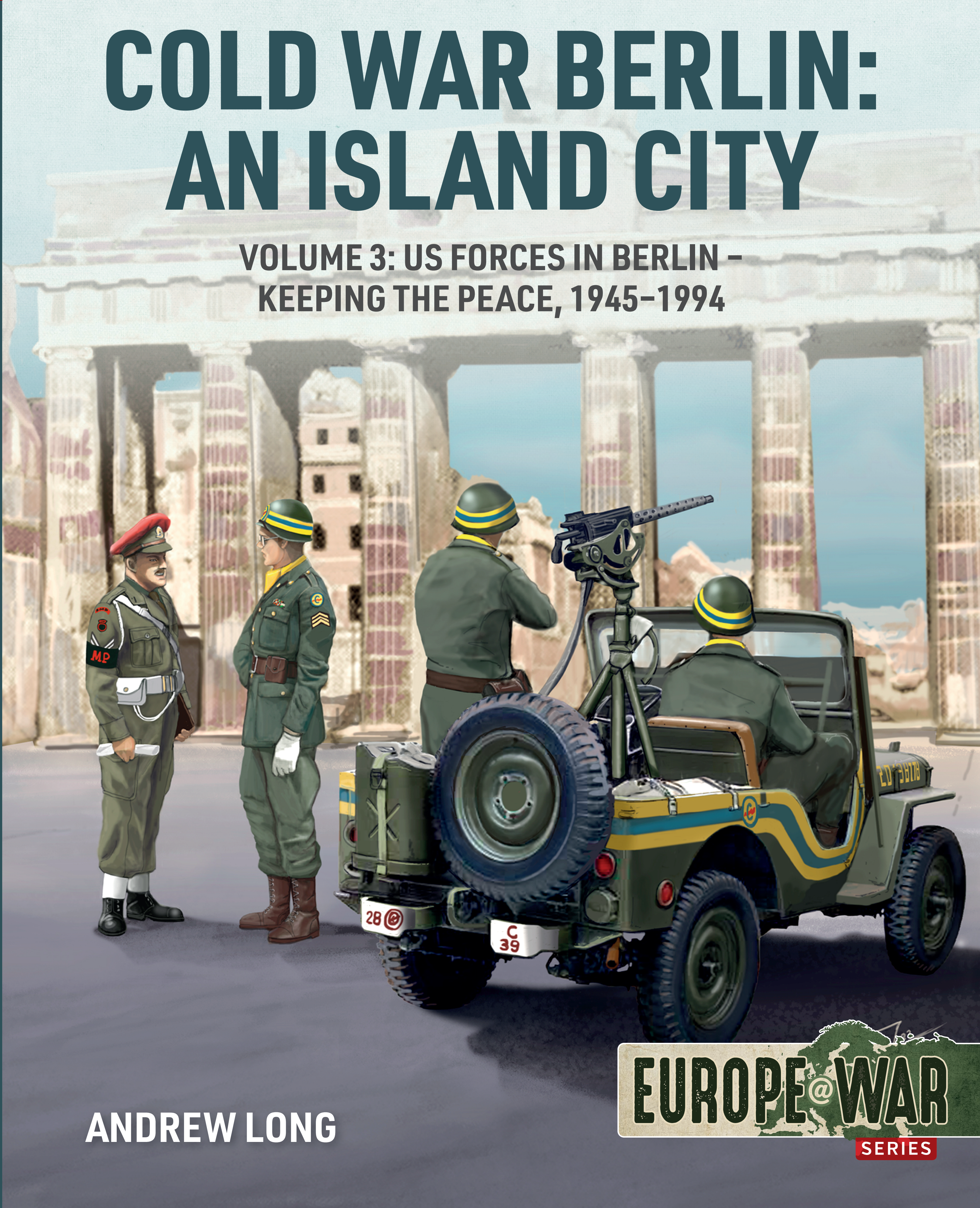
No.27

COLD WAR BERLIN: AN ISLAND CITY

VOLUME 3: US FORCES IN BERLIN – KEEPING THE PEACE, 1945–1994



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Cover Artwork: The front cover shows a scene in Berlin c.1947. In the foreground is a Willys MB Jeep patrol of the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate), US Constabulary. The Constabulary sergeant is talking to a corporal from the British Royal Military Police. In the background is the iconic Brandenburg Gate, which became the symbol of the divided city after the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961, however, in 1947 the gate was still open to traffic passing from the British sector to the Soviet sector. In the early years of the occupation, the US patrolled across all Allied sectors because of their greater manpower, but later they concentrated just on the American sector. (Artwork by Pablo Patricio Albornoz © Helion & Company)
The back cover shows a Stinson L-5 Sentinel of the US Constabulary, c.1946. The US Constabulary used these stable two-seater aircraft for patrols and photographic reconnaissance over the American Sector of Berlin. (Tom Cooper)

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We always welcome receiving book proposals from prospective authors.

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MALTA
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MAP OF EUROPE 1945–1992

Note: In order to simplify the use of this book, all names, locations and geographic designations are as provided in *The Times World Atlas*, or other traditionally accepted major sources of reference, as of the time of described events.

PREFACE

This is the first of two books on the United States forces that served in West Berlin during the Cold War.

This book (Volume 3 in the *Cold War Berlin: An Island City* mini-series) looks at how the United States went about keeping the peace in the city, how they went about governing, working with their allies and adversaries, and establishing the infrastructure to sustain an occupying force. It looks at policing in some detail as well as some of the support units that kept the garrison going. The author hopes to paint a picture of what it was like to live and serve in the 'island city' for American service personnel and their families.

The second part (Volume 4), will look at how the US forces in West Berlin prepared to go to war if it became clear that the Soviet Union (and their East German puppets) had hostile intentions to the West. It looks at the fighting capability of the US garrison, their detailed order of battle (ORBAT), the equipment they used, and their training. Further books in the Berlin mini-series will look at the other Allied forces in the city.

This book uses British English spelling throughout, unless it is referring to a US specific unit or name.

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The list gets longer and longer …

Many thanks to Duncan Rogers, Tom Cooper, Andy Miles and Bill Norton from Helion who continue to support my writing, give me loads of encouragement and attempt to keep me on topic. Special thanks to the following for helping me with image sourcing and sharing their expert knowledge: David Bocquelet (tanks-encyclopedia.com), Sam Cox (militaryhorse.org), Louis DeVirgilio, Walter Elkins (usarmygermany.com), Albert Grandolini, Lutz Griesbach (guardbattalion.de), Dan Hermann (298th Army Band), Edmund von Nordeck, Robert Rynerson (Berlin1969.com), Efim Sandler, and Peter Williams and Rod Saar from the BRIXMIS Association. Thanks as always to the US National Archives for providing access to a wealth of historical material and especially to berlin.museum-digital.de and the alliiertenmuseum.de in Berlin, who have made so many excellent images available on-line. Thanks to Pablo Patricio Albornoz, David Bocquelet, Tom Cooper, Renato Dalmaso, and Goran Sudar for their excellent illustrations. Biggest thanks go to my family who do not seem to mind the hours I spend shut away in my garden office, whisper words of encouragement when I need it, and share in the joy of seeing the finished product arrive.

My sincere thanks to all.

Andrew Long, Cornwall, 2022

ABBREVIATIONS

AACS	Airways and Air Communications Service
AAFES	Army Air Force Exchange Store
ACC	Allied Control Council
AFN	American Forces Network
BDC	Berlin Document Center
BN	Battalion
CO	Company
DCSI	Deputy Chief of Staff Intelligence
DDR	*Deutsche Demokratische Republik*
DP	Displaced person (refugee)
DUI	Distinctive Unit Insignia
EAC	European Advisory Commission
EATS	European Air Transport Service
ECSC	European Coal and Steel Community
EUCOM	European Command
FRG	Federal Republic of Germany
GD	Guard
GDR	German Democratic Republic, East Germany
HHC	Headquarters and Headquarters Company
HICOG	High Commission for Occupied Germany
IGB	Inner German Border
JAROC	Joint Allied Refugee Operations Center
LS	Labor Service
MP	Military Police
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCO	Non Commissioned Officer
OMGUS	Office of Military Government United States
ORBAT	Order of Battle
PX	Post Exchange
RAF	Royal Air Force
RIAS	Radio In the American Sector (US propaganda broadcaster)
RTO	Rail Transport Office (US Army)
SHAEF	Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces
TAREX	Target Exploitation
TCA	Tempelhof Central Airport
USAB	US Army Berlin
USAAF	United States Army Air Force
USAF	United States Air Force
USAREUR	US Army, Europe
USCOB	United States Commander, Berlin
USMLM	US Military Liaison Mission
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Soviet Union

TIMELINE

14 January 1944	European Advisory Commission (EAC) is formed
14 November 1944	Agreement on Control Machinery in Germany, a.k.a. The London Agreement
February 1945	Yalta Conference
8 May 1945	VE Day
5 June 1945	*Declaration regarding the Defeat of Germany and the assumption of Supreme Authority with respect to Germany* (*The Berlin Declaration*)
1 July 1945	US advance party arrives in the city
4 July 1945	US forces formally take possession of their occupation sector of Berlin, establishing the 'Berlin Military District'
11 July 1945	First meeting of the Allied Kommandatura
17 July 1945	Potsdam Conference begins (running to 2 August)
28 July 1945	Berlin Military District publishes its first newssheet (first newspaper in September 1945)
4 August 1945	American Forces Network (AFN) starts broadcasting
12 August 1945	French forces take possession of their occupation sector of Berlin
30 August 1945	The Allied Control Council (ACC) sits for the first time
October 1945	1st Berlin District Constabulary Squadron (Provisional) is formed
March 1946	Berlin District Composite Constabulary Squadron (Provisional) is formed
1 May 1946	16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) is formed in Berlin
1 July 1946	US Constabulary becomes operational
November 1946	'Berlin Military District' becomes 'Berlin Command'
1 January 1947	British and American zones merge economically to form the Bizone
12 March 1947	Truman Doctrine speech is delivered
5 June 1947	The Marshall Plan is announced
18 July 1947	Convicted Nazis transferred to Spandau Prison in Berlin
18 September 1947	The United States Air Force (USAF) is formed
20 March 1948	Soviets withdraw from the ACC
May 1948	'Berlin Command' becomes 'Berlin Military Post'
16 June 1948	Soviets withdraw from the Allied Kommandatura
18 June 1948	OMGUS announces the introduction of new currency for the Bizone, the *Deutsche Mark* or D-Mark
24 June 1948	Start of the Berlin Blockade
4 April 1949	North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is formed
8 April 1949	France is admitted into the Bizone (now a *Trizone*)
10 April 1949	Occupation Statute (*Besatzungsstatut*) is signed
8 May 1949	'Basic law for the Federal Republic of Germany' (*Grundgesetz*) is signed
12 May 1949	The Berlin Blockade ends
12 May 1949	The Occupation Statute of Germany (*Besatzungsstatut*) is promulgated
23 May 1949	The 'Basic law for the Federal Republic of Germany' is promulgated, creating the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany)
21 September 1949	The Occupation Statute of Germany (*Besatzungsstatut*) comes into effect
21 September 1949	Military Government ends, High Commission is formed
7 October 1949	The German Democratic Republic (GDR, *Deutsche Demokratische Republik*, DDR) is founded
22 November 1949	The Petersberg Agreement is signed
10 November 1950	16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) is deactivated
24 November 1950	Horse Platoon of the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) is transferred to 759th Military Police Battalion
July 1951	Great Britain and France end the state of war with Germany
October 1951	The United States ends the state of war with Germany
26 May 1952	Convention on Relations Between the Three Powers (the USA, UK and France) and the Federal Republic of Germany', a.k.a. the Bonn-Paris Conventions, is signed in Bonn
26 May 1952	With the *Decree on Measures regarding the Demarcation Line between the German Democratic Republic and the Western Occupation Zones of Germany*, the DDR closes the Inner German Border
December 1952	'Berlin Military Post' reverts to 'Berlin Command'
June 1953	East German workers' uprising
Oct /Nov 1953	759th MP Battalion splits into two companies: 272nd and 287th Military Police Companies
October 1953	Horse Platoon of 759th Military Police Battalion is transferred to 287th Military Police Company
January 1955	The Soviet Union ends the state of war with Germany
5 May 1955	West Germany gains full sovereignty
5 May 1955	High Commission ends, Embassy is created
6 May 1955	West Germany is admitted into NATO
14 May 1955	The Warsaw Treaty is signed creating the Warsaw Pact
12 November 1955	The *Bundeswehr*, the West German Armed Forces, is formed
18 January 1956	The *Nationale Volksarmee* (NVA, the East German Armed Forces), is formed
22 April 1956	Operation GOLD at Rudow is blown by East German telephone engineers
31 March 1958	Horse Platoon, 287th Military Police Company is deactivated, ending the use of horses by the US Army in Berlin
13 August 1961	The Berlin Wall is erected
21 September 1961	General Lucius D. Clay makes a controversial visit to the exclave of Steinstücken in the south of the city
1 December 1961	US Army, Berlin is created as a as a major subordinate command of USAREUR (US Army Europe)
26 June 1963	US President John F. Kennedy delivers his famous '*Ich bin ein Berliner*' speech in West Berlin
3 September 1971	Occupying Powers sign Quadripartite Agreement on Berlin
3 June 1972	Quadripartite Agreement becomes effective
24 March 1985	Major Arthur D. Nicholson Jr., USMLM is shot a killed by Soviet sentry inside DDR

5 April 1986	Bombing at the La Belle Discotheque in West Berlin
12 June 1987	US President Ronald Reagan delivers his famous 'Mr Gorbachev, tear down this wall' speech in West Berlin
17 August 1987	Rudolf Hess commits suicide
9 November 1989	The Berlin Wall is opened
22 June 1990	Checkpoint CHARLIE operations ceased
12 September 1990	*Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany* (*Vertrag über die abschließende Regelung in Bezug auf Deutschland* a.k.a. the *Two Plus Four Agreement*) is signed in Moscow
29 September 1990	Soviets closed their checkpoint at Marienborn
3 October 1990	German Reunification Day
3 October 1990	Allied Checkpoint BRAVO closes
15 March 1991	Soviet Union ratifies *Two Plus Four Agreement*, last hurdle for full German independence
24 April 1992	Allied checkpoint at Helmstedt (Checkpoint ALFA) closes
29 January 1993	7350th Air Base Group, USAF (Tempelhof) is deactivated
30 September 1993	6941st Guard Battalion is disbanded
12 July 1994	Berlin Brigade is deactivated
15 July 1994	Final edition of *The Berlin Observer* is published
15 July 1994	AFN ceases broadcasting in Berlin

INTRODUCTION

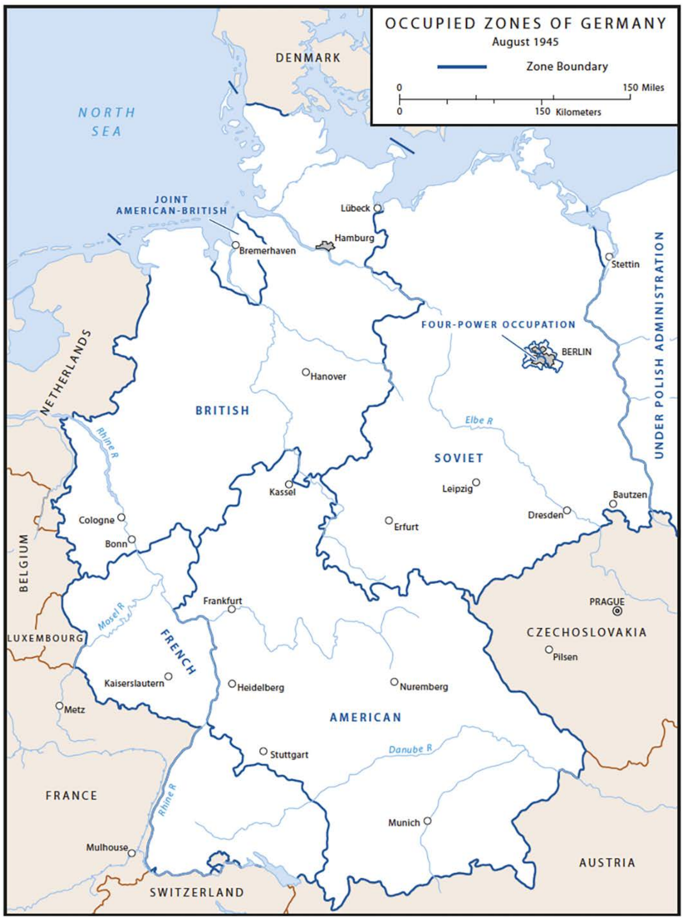
Following Adolf Hitler's suicide on 30 April 1945, the defence of Berlin crumbled and on 2 May the Germans surrendered to Soviet forces. There followed an elaborate pantomime between the wartime allies to finally bring the war in Europe to a close, a hint of what was to come between the Soviets and the other Allies. Hitler had nominated *Großadmiral* Karl Dönitz as his successor, who as the new head of state, delegated authority to negotiate a surrender with the Allies to *Generaloberst* Alfred Jodl.[1] Jodl was taken to SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force) in Reims, northeast France and met with an uncompromising Lieutenant General Walter Bedell Smith, SHAEF Chief of Staff, who refused to negotiate on any point.[2] Jodl was forced to sign an unconditional 'Act of Military Surrender' with a ceasefire effective at 2301 hours Central European Time on 8 May 1945.[3] General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe, and future US President, refused to even meet with the German representatives until the surrender had been signed. 8 May is commemorated as VE (Victory in Europe) Day around the world.

When Stalin heard the news, he was furious that the German surrender had been made to the Americans and British, not to his Red Army, and demanded another surrender ceremony in Berlin (which he now occupied) on 9 May.[4] He argued that Berlin had been the capital of the former Third Reich so it was appropriate for the formal act of surrender to take place there, and as the Soviet people had suffered the most of all the Allies (a claim he would repeat many times), it should be a Soviet officer that took the surrender. He also was not satisfied with Jodl's seniority and insisted that the most senior surviving Nazi officer be the one to sign the document, a job that fell to *Generalfeldmarschall* Wilhelm Keitel.[5] Keitel was taken to Karlshorst in southeast Berlin (which would become the home of the Soviet Military Administration in Germany) and signed another document of surrender in front of Marshall Georgy Zhukov.[6] Because of procedural delays this second surrender did not become effective until 9 May, a date which the Russians still commemorate to this day.[7]

With victory in Europe achieved (Japan would not capitulate until 15 August 1945), it was now time to start planning the peace. Work had been going on since January 1944 at the European Advisory Commission (EAC), a joint British, American, and Soviet body (the French were not involved until later), exploring how Germany should be governed once the Allies had defeated Hitler. The *Agreement on Control Machinery in Germany* signed in London on 14 November 1944 (*The London Agreement*) recommended the establishment of a tri-partite Allied Control Council (ACC, again, the French were not initially involved), who would see the surrender process through and provide governance for a post-war Germany.[8]

The European Advisory Committee (EAC) established that Germany would be split into three occupation zones; British; American; and Soviet, with nothing initially for French. At the Yalta Conference in February 1945:

> It was agreed that a zone in Germany, to be occupied by the French forces, should be allocated to France. This zone would be formed out of the British and American zones and its extent would be settled by the British and Americans in consultation with the French Provisional Government. It was also agreed that

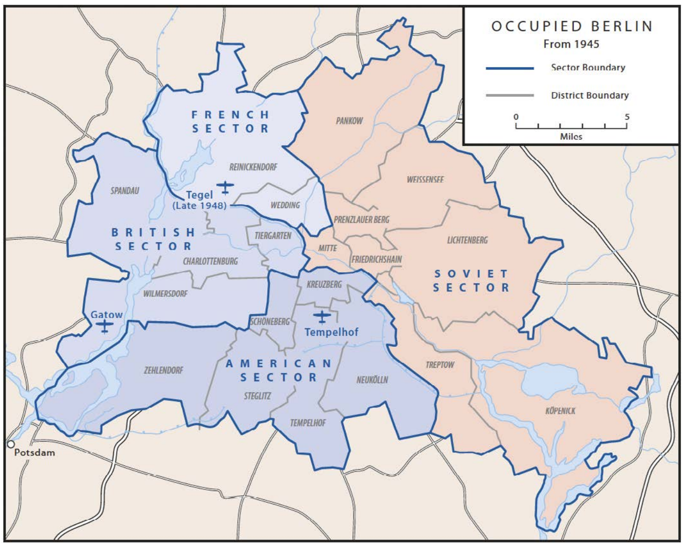

OCCUPIED ZONES OF GERMANY
August 1945
Zone Boundary
0
150 Miles
0
150 Kilometers
DENMARK
NORTH SEA
JOINT AMERICAN-BRITISH
Lübeck
Hamburg
Bremerhaven
Stettin
UNDER POLISH ADMINISTRATION
FOUR-POWER OCCUPATION
BERLIN
NETHERLANDS
Hanover
BRITISH
Elbe R
SOVIET
Rhine R
Kassel
Leipzig
Bautzen
Dresden
Cologne
Erfurt
Bonn
BELGIUM
Frankfurt
PRAGUE
Mosel R
LUXEMBOURG
FRENCH
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Pilsen
Kaiserslautern
Heidelberg
Nuremberg
Metz
AMERICAN
Stuttgart
Danube R
FRANCE
Rhine R
Munich
Mulhouse
AUSTRIA
SWITZERLAND

Occupation Zones of post-war Germany. (US Army Center of Military History)

> the French Provisional Government should be invited to become a member of the Allied Control Council for Germany.[9]

Stalin was not prepared to give up any of his hard-won territory, but the British and Americans eventually ceded some of their proposed occupation zones to give the French an odd-shaped zone in the southwest of Germany resembling two triangles joined by a thin strip of land between two of the points.

Berlin would also be split up amongst the victorious Allies. Before the Second World War, Berlin had been divided up into 20 administrative districts and it was these districts that were used to divide up the city, paper boundaries that would take on a whole new meaning in 1961. Through the work of the EAC, which was confirmed at the Yalta Conference in February 1945, the Soviets were allocated eight districts in the east of the city, the Americans six in the southwest, and the British six in the north and west. The 14 November 1944 London Agreement also proposed the establishment of 'An Inter-Allied Governing Authority (Kommandatura) to direct jointly the administration of the "Greater Berlin" area.' The Kommandatura would be headed by the respective Military Commanders in the city. France was left out of this arrangement, but to reduce the number of people they had to care for (and with it the financial and logistical burden), and to placate the French, the British kindly donated two districts in the north of the city (Reinickendorf and Wedding) to the French, giving them a seat at the Kommandatura.



Sectors of occupied Berlin. (The US Army Center of Military History)

Stalin had taken the prize of Berlin at the cost of 70,000–80,000 of his soldiers, while the British and Americans had controversially stopped their advance in mid-April at the River Elbe near Magdeburg, some 150km (93 miles) from Berlin. That meant that until the British and Americans 'negotiated' access to the city (which after all was located deep within the Soviet occupation zone), Stalin's Red Army would have free rein over Berlin and some of the territory that had been earmarked for British or American occupation. Stalin made good use of this time to systematically loot what was left of the infrastructure, industry, and materials to send back to the Soviet Union, although there was not much left worth salvaging after the city had been devastated by years of British and American bombing raids and brutal street-to-street fighting as the Red Army fought to take the city.

The farce surrounding the arrival of the other Allied forces in Berlin was indicative of the problems that would plague their future interactions with the Soviets. Major General Floyd L. Parks, commander of the 1st Allied Airborne Army, flew into Tempelhof on 22 June 1945 to establish a venue for the forthcoming Potsdam Conference. Parks and his staff

Table 1: Berlin Districts

District		Sector	Berlin	Note
American Sector				
6	Kreuzberg	American	West	
10	Zehlendorf	American	West	
11	Schöneberg	American	West	
12	Steglitz	American	West	
13	Tempelhof	American	West	
14	Neukölln	American	West	
British Sector				
2	Tiergarten	British	West	
7	Charlottenburg	British	West	
8	Spandau	British	West	
9	Wilmersdorf	British	West	
French Sector				
3	Wedding	French	West	Originally a British sector
20	Reinickendorf	French	West	Originally a British sector
Soviet Sector				
1	Mitte	Soviet	East	
4	Prenzlauer Berg	Soviet	East	Formerly Horst-Wessel-Stadt
5	Friedrichshain	Soviet	East	
15	Treptow	Soviet	East	
16	Köpenick	Soviet	East	
17	Lichtenberg	Soviet	East	Subdivided to include Marzahn from 1979 and Hellersdorf from 1986
18	Weißensee	Soviet	East	Subdivided to include Hohenschönhausen from 1986
19	Pankow	Soviet	East	Boundary changes in 1985 gives three sub-districts: Blankenburg; Heinersdorf; and Karow, to Weißensee

were billeted in Babelsberg, a suburb of Potsdam, just across the River Havel from Schloss Cecilienhof, where the conference was finally held. The main element of General Parks' advance party led by Colonel Frank Howley, the 'Preliminary Reconnaissance Party for Berlin', and the 'Military Government Detachment A1A1' (100 trucks, 122 officers and 211 enlisted men) were travelling by road along the Halle-Berlin autobahn (Halle was west of the Elbe where the US advance had stopped). At the Elbe River bridge just east of Dessau, the Soviets stopped the column for several hours before letting them proceed only as far as Babelsberg (Parks had flown back to the US Zone by now). On arrival, they were not allowed anywhere near the Schloss Cecilienhof, which had been sealed off by the Soviets and after a few frustrating days, they had to return to Halle without being able to complete their reconnaissance.[10]

On 1 July 1945, after some intense top-level diplomacy, Howley's column and Detachment A1A1 finally made it into the city, the first US troops allowed into Berlin since the fighting had ended, two months previously. Unable to scout for accommodation on their previous trip, they had to set up camp under canvas in the Grunewald, an inauspicious beginning to the Berlin Command. After lengthy negotiations with Soviet commanders, it was agreed that the Americans could formally occupy their sector in force on 4 July, American Independence Day and a formal acceptance parade was arranged, with the Soviets in attendance.[11]

A British reconnaissance team left Wolfenbüttel, just south of Braunschweig (Brunswick) in the British Zone at 0430 hours on 1 July 1945 and headed east on the 220km (137 mile) drive across Germany. They made good progress until they reached the Elbe River when they encountered similar obstructions and were forced to take an unwelcome detour, arriving in the city at 1700.[12] The proper advance party arrived in the city on 2 July, commanded by Brigadier W. Hinde, the first representative of the 'British Military Government, Berlin Area' to enter the city.

On 3 July 1945, Major General Parks, led elements of the 2nd Armored 'Hell on Wheels' Division to be the first major body of US troops to enter the city but encountered a series of Soviet roadblocks.[13] The 2nd Armored Division MP platoon managed to bypass the roadblocks, arriving just in time for the ceremony at the former AEG Telefunken electronics factory in Lichterfelde (which would become known as McNair Barracks). General Omar Bradley, commander of the US Army 12th Army Group, formally took possession of the American Sector of Berlin, although Zhukov put the dampeners on the situation by informing the Americans that they could not move their forces in until the Kommandatura had met. Parks instructed Howley to ignore this blatant obstructionism and proceed with the deployment of his troops to their new homes, which he achieved on 5 July, immediately establishing a functioning US Military Government. The Kommandatura finally met on 11 July, removing any further restrictions for the Allies, although it would take until mid-August to finally eject the Soviets from the Western sectors.

The main British contingent also arrived on 4 July consisting of the 7th Armoured Division (The Desert Rats) and the 1st Battalion, The Grenadier Guards and supporting units, led by Major General Lewis Lyne, who would be the first Commandant of the British Sector and General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the British garrison.

During the first Allied Kommandatura meeting, the British, Americans and Soviets confirmed that the British would cede the Reinickendorf and Wedding districts in the north of the city to the French, allowing them to plan their move into Berlin, which they achieved on 12 August 1945. For the civilian population in those districts, it was the third occupying force in as many months. From day one, they took a different line to governing their sector than the other Western Allies, reflecting their government's deep-felt suspicion and antipathy to the German people. Recovering from a long period of occupation by (and collaboration with) the Nazis, the French occupation force were initially much less well equipped and relied more on requisitioning property and supplies from the civilian population than their British and American colleagues.

1

GOVERNING POST-WAR GERMANY AND BERLIN

Because of its highly unusual status (not unique, because Austria and Vienna had a similar power-sharing agreement) and the deteriorating relationship between the former allies (mainly the Soviets vs. the rest) the governance of post-war Germany and its capital Berlin was always going to be complicated.

Through the work of the EAC between January 1945 and the end of the war, the fate of Germany was decided in the *Declaration regarding the defeat of Germany and the assumption of supreme authority with respect to Germany by the Governments of the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the Provisional Government of the French Republic*, which was signed in Berlin on 5 June 1945 by: Dwight D. Eisenhower, General of the Army, USA; Zhukov, Marshal of the Soviet Union; B. L. Montgomery, Field Marshal, Great Britain; De Lattre de Tassisny, *Général d'armée*, French Provisional Government. This document, known as *The Berlin Declaration*, was the legal basis for Allied military rule of Germany.[1]

Each of the four zones of occupation would be headed by a Military Governor, the commander-in-chief of their respective zone: Eisenhower for the American Zone, Zhukov for the Soviet, Montgomery for the British, and although it was De Lattre de Tassisny who signed the Declaration for France, it was his successor *Général d'armée* Marie-Pierre Kœnig who would be the first French military governor.

These four representatives would form the ACC (Allied Control Council, also known as the Allied Control Authority, ACA), the collective supreme authority over occupied Germany, replacing all previous central and local government functions, and they would base themselves at the grand Kammergericht building (the former Prussian Supreme Court) at Potsdamer Straße/Elßholzstraße in Schöneberg, Berlin. Article 2 of the 'Statement on Control Machinery in Germany', also issued on 5 June 1945, stated:

> The Control Council, whose decisions shall be unanimous, will ensure appropriate uniformity of action by the Commanders-in-Chief in their respective zones of occupation and will reach agreed decisions on the chief questions affecting Germany as a whole.[2]

Table 2: American Commandants

General	Associated unit	Start date	End date
Major General Floyd L. Parks	2nd Armored Division	July 1945	September 1945
Major General James M. Gavin	82nd Airborne Division	September 1945	October 1945
Major General Ray W. Barker	78th Infantry Division	October 1945	May 1946
Major General Frank A. Keating[3]		May 1946	May 1947
Major General Cornelius E. Ryan[4]		May 1947	September 1947

This simple clause was the root of the breakdown of the four-power relationship and the eventual division of Berlin. In the spirit of wartime camaraderie, the EAC were told that post-war Germany was to be governed by *unanimous* agreement between the Allies to ensure shared responsibility and legitimacy in the eyes of the world. Attempts by some of the EAC members to legislate for a majority decision mechanism (to avoid stalemates) were rebuffed by higher authority. As soon as the shooting finished, the camaraderie went out of the window as the Soviet Union began to flex its muscles and vie for advantage in the new world order. As the Western Allies would soon realise, the Soviets would consistently use this unanimous clause as a veto effectively strangling any meaningful progress by the ACC.

Proclamation No.1 from the first meeting of the ACC on 30 August 1945 restated their supreme authority over the conquered Germans, and this was followed by a succession of proclamations creating new laws, repealing old ones, and establishing the foundations for the governance of post-war Germany.

The first meeting of the Allied Kommandatura was 11 July 1945, where the four-power Council of Commandants began governing the city. Their first task was the formal handover of control of the Western sectors to their respective commandants, allowing the British, American, and French forces to move in and flush any remaining Soviet troops out. Responsibility for providing food and coal for the civilian population also passed to the individual military governments. The Kommandatura needed to find a permanent home. The Soviets offered one possible location for Kommandatura headquarters, but it was far removed in a distant Berlin suburb, the British offered several damaged buildings and a hotel in their sector, while Howley offered a building on Lake Wannsee. All these were rejected, before finally agreeing on a grand looking building on Kaiserswerther Straße in Dahlem, close to the chosen location for the US headquarters complex. The terms of reference for the Kommandatura were the same as the ACC, so the Western Allies quickly discovered that jointly governing Berlin with the Soviets was going to be a challenge.

The official US representative on the Kommandatura was initially Major General Parks, commander of the US garrison in the city, but he was quickly rotated back to the United States and replaced by a succession of other commanders, rotating in and out of the city with their respective units. In a 12-month period, beginning when the Americans arrived in the city, there were four American Commandants, each with different experience, styles, and agendas.

In these important early months of four-power governance, this lack of continuity and consistent vision could not have been helpful in building relationships with their fellow Allies, and the Soviets were quick to exploit any weaknesses. Such churn was to be expected as the US began to draw down their forces in Europe, but this lack of clear strategic direction undoubtedly allowed the Soviets to take advantage of the situation. From the wartime conferences (Tehran, Yalta, and Potsdam) to the ACC and on to the Kommandatura in Berlin, the West consistently underestimated the Soviets, constantly playing catch up. Marshall Georgy Zhukov and his deputy General Vasily Sokolovsky had survived and ridden to the top of Stalin's brutal and paranoid regime and presented a difficult and uncompromising negotiating position to their former allies, wielding their veto at almost every Western proposal.

One constant in the American camp, however, was Colonel Frank Howley, who had led the US advance party on 1 July. He was able to give much needed continuity and experience in civil affairs (as opposed to the succession of commandants who were all combat leaders) as the victorious Allies tried to rebuild the shattered city. He led the administrative efforts in the background and his contribution was eventually rewarded by his appointment to military commandant in December 1947 and his promotion to brigadier general in March 1949 after his successful stewardship during the Berlin Airlift.

Occupation Governments

Underneath each Military Governor there would be a military government, who would run their respective zones of occupation. They were as follows:

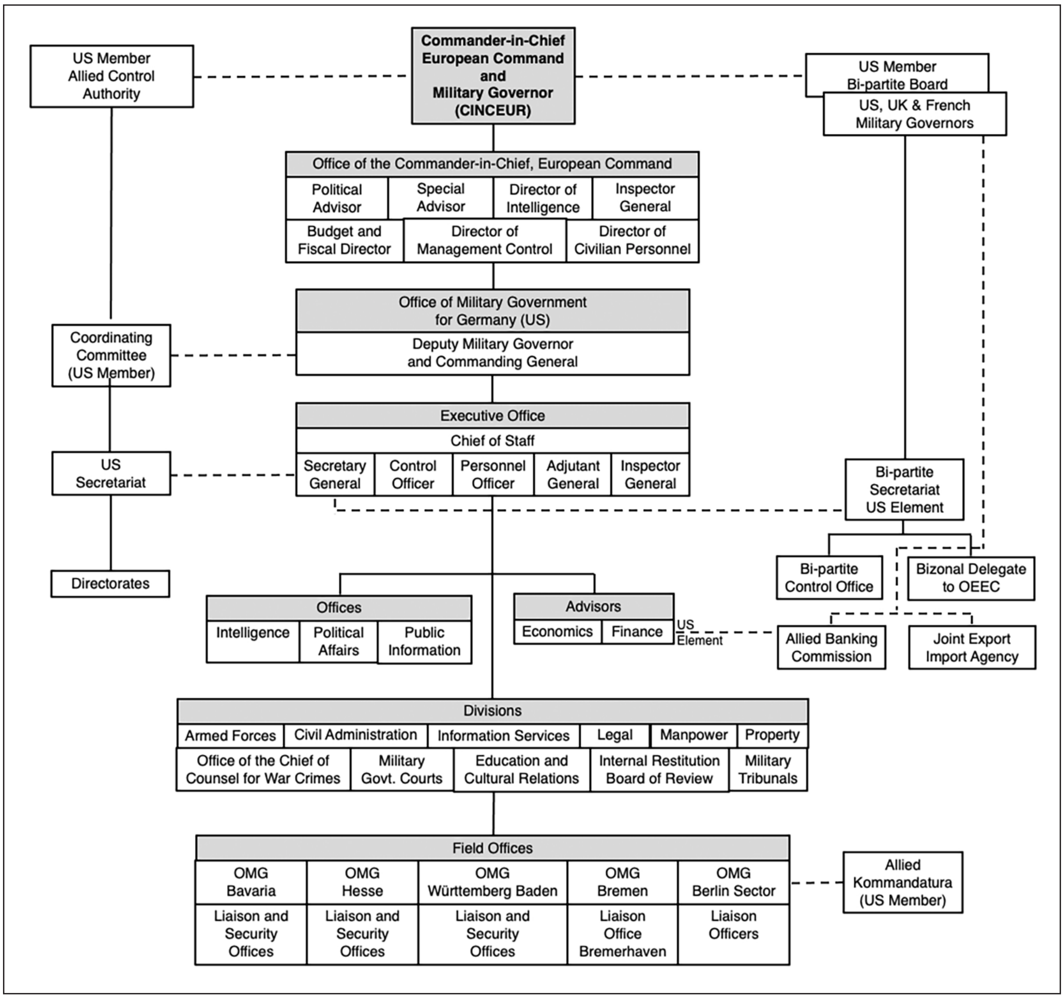
- US Zone – Office of Military Government, United States or OMGUS based in Frankfurt am Main
- British Zone – Control Commission Germany (British Element) or CCG(BE) based at Bad Oeynhausen, between Hannover and Osnabruck
- French Zone – *Gouvernement Militaire de la Zone Française d'Occupation en Allemagne* (GMZFO) based in Baden Baden
- Soviet Zone – Soviet Military Administration in Germany or SMAG (in Russian, the *Sovyetskaya Voyennaya Administratsiya v Germanii* or SVAG, and in German the *Sowjetische Militäradministration in Deutschland* or SMAD), based in Karlshorst, Berlin

The British, American, and French military governments would have supreme control of their respective occupation zones until this was passed to civilian High Commissioners in September 1949, an important step on the path to rehabilitate Germany.

Military Government of the US Occupation Zone

The US Military Government set up its headquarters in a former *Luftwaffe* barracks on Kronbprinzenallee in Zehlendorf/Dahlem area of the city. Until recently, it had been the home of *Luftgaukommando III* of the *Luftwaffe*, which coordinated the air defence over Berlin. Lieutenant General Lucius Clay, the deputy US Military Governor under Eisenhower, established the Office of Military Government, United States (Zone) or OMGUS on this site, effectively becoming the top representative of the US Government in the city, supported by career diplomat Robert Murphy as political adviser. Security for the US sector was to be provided by Major General Parks' 2nd Armored Division.[5]

With the military dominating the city, it was difficult to separate the governance mission from the defence mission, and it took several years for the two distinct roles to settle down. The appointment of John J. McCloy as US High Commissioner in September 1949 in


US Member Allied Control Authority
Commander-in-Chief European Command and Military Governor (CINCEUR)
US Member Bi-partite Board
US, UK & French Military Governors
Office of the Commander-in-Chief, European Command
Political Advisor
Special Advisor
Director of Intelligence
Inspector General
Budget and Fiscal Director
Director of Management Control
Director of Civilian Personnel
Office of Military Government for Germany (US)
Deputy Military Governor and Commanding General
Coordinating Committee (US Member)
Executive Office
Chief of Staff
Secretary General
Control Officer
Personnel Officer
Adjutant General
Inspector General
US Secretariat
Directorates
Bi-partite Secretariat US Element
Bi-partite Control Office
Bizonal Delegate to OEEC
Offices
Intelligence
Political Affairs
Public Information
Advisors
Economics
Finance
US Element
Allied Banking Commission
Joint Export Import Agency
Divisions
Armed Forces
Civil Administration
Information Services
Legal
Manpower
Property
Office of the Chief of Counsel for War Crimes
Military Govt. Courts
Education and Cultural Relations
Internal Restitution Board of Review
Military Tribunals
Field Offices
OMG Bavaria
OMG Hesse
OMG Württemberg Baden
OMG Bremen
OMG Berlin Sector
Liaison and Security Offices
Liaison and Security Offices
Liaison and Security Offices
Liaison Office Bremerhaven
Liaison Officers
Allied Kommandatura (US Member)

Structure of Office of Military Government, United States, OMGUS. (Author's diagram based on chart from Information Bulletin, Magazine of US Military Government in Germany, 14 June 1949)

overall charge of the US Zone and the American Sector of West Berlin (represented by a quasi-diplomatic civilian 'Minister' in Berlin) and a separate military command structure under Major General Maxwell D. Taylor (reporting to USAREUR based in Heidelberg) heralded a clear separation of military and civil governance.

High Commission for Germany

During 1949, there was considerable progress along the path to make an independent state out of the three Allied occupation zones of Germany. In quick succession, France merged its zone economically with the British and American Bizone to make a single 'Trizone' economic entity, which in May 1949 became the Federal Republic of Germany, a state in its own right, although the Allies kept control of international relations and defence matters. To prepare for the transition of power from military governed occupation zones to a fully sovereign state, the Allied Control Council for Germany and its three military governors became the Allied High Commission for Germany, with three high commissioners.

The three High Commissions carried forward most of the functions of the Military Governments, but without the military command structure. This can be seen in the US High Commission structure shown on the next page.

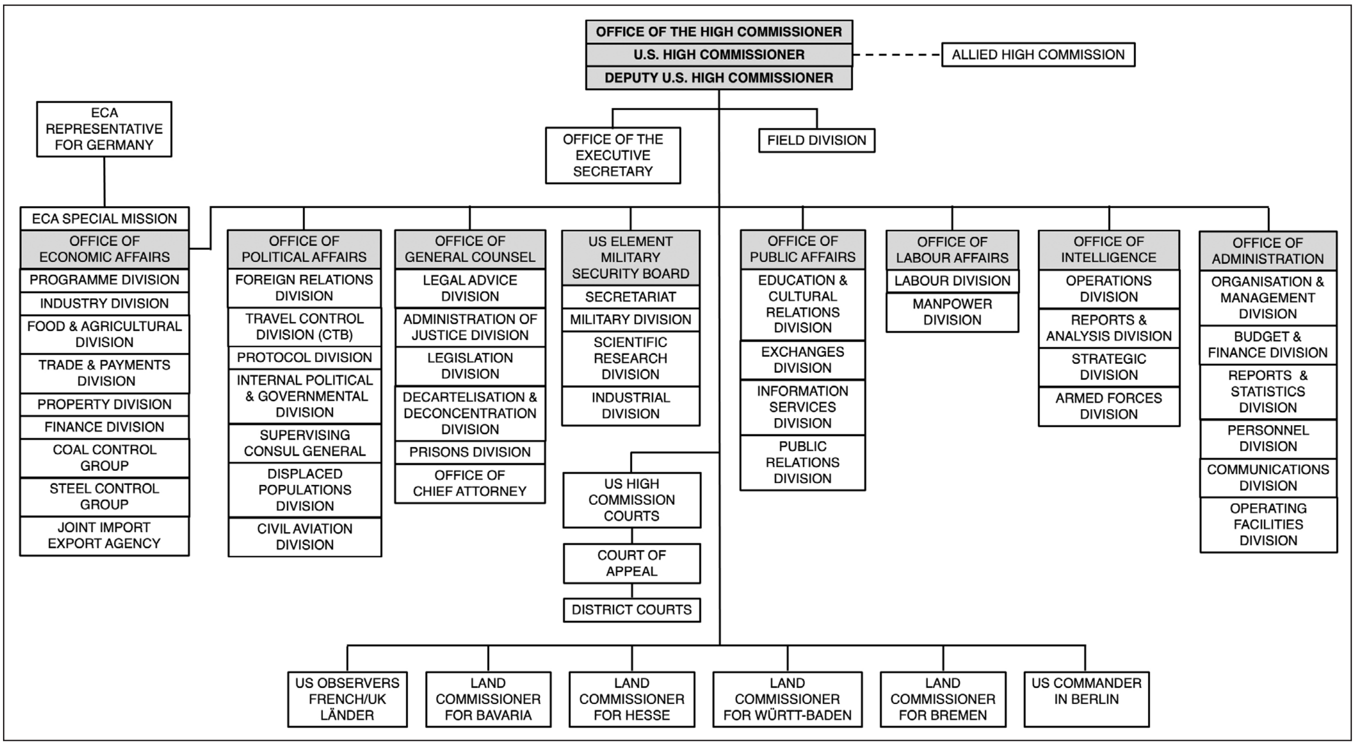
The British and French High Commissions followed a similar pattern, albeit aligned to their own civilian government structure. They all established their missions in Bonn close to the new Federal Government and an infrastructure quickly built up to house the staff and their families. For example, the US Mission took over Schloss Deichmannsaue, a substantial property completed just before the First World War on the banks of the Rhine, which was soon extended to accommodate the growing organisation. A housing complex was built at nearby Plittersdorf, with American shops, school, swimming pool, clubhouse, and cinema. Similar infrastructures were established by the other Allies, and all these transitioned to embassy buildings when the Federal Republic gained full sovereignty in 1955 and diplomatic relations were established. The embassies remained in Bonn until reunification in 1990, when they relocated to Berlin.

Having set the wheels in motion for a smooth transition of power, General Clay returned to the US on 15 May 1949 and was succeeded by Lieutenant General Clarence R. Huebner. Huebner, who had had a distinguished military career and had served with distinction in both the First and Second World Wars, became the last US Military Governor of Germany, albeit in an 'acting' capacity. The first US High Commissioner for Germany was John J. McCloy, who had been instrumental in drafting the Occupation Statute.

McCloy was succeeded in August 1952 by career diplomat Walter J. Donnelly, who only served a short time before handing over to Samuel Reber in December 1952 as Acting High Commissioner. Reber had been working for the State Department in Europe since the 1930s. He would have been confirmed in the role had he not fallen foul of one of Senator Joseph McCarthy's witch-hunts and was forced to resign when it was suggested that alleged homosexual relationships made him a security risk. James B. Conant, a well-respected scientist who worked on the Manhattan Project and had been President of Harvard University, was a safe pair of hands at a crucial time for the High Commission, seeing West Germany through the transition to a sovereign state and sitting as the first US Ambassador to the new state.

Breakdown in Relations and West Germany's Rehabilitation to Statehood

The great wartime alliance between the British, Americans and Soviets (and to a lesser extent, the French) began to show signs of strain from the moment the Germans surrendered. It soon became clear that Stalin was following a different path to his erstwhile allies and in the pressure cooker atmosphere of Berlin, the relationship between East (the Soviets) and West (British, Americans and French) began to crumble. The flaws in the ACC and Kommandatura's terms of reference (the unanimous clause) made effective four-power governance of the four occupation zones of Germany and


OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
U.S. HIGH COMMISSIONER
DEPUTY U.S. HIGH COMMISSIONER
ALLIED HIGH COMMISSION
ECA REPRESENTATIVE FOR GERMANY
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
FIELD DIVISION
ECA SPECIAL MISSION
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
PROGRAMME DIVISION
INDUSTRY DIVISION
FOOD & AGRICULTURAL DIVISION
TRADE & PAYMENTS DIVISION
PROPERTY DIVISION
FINANCE DIVISION
COAL CONTROL GROUP
STEEL CONTROL GROUP
JOINT IMPORT EXPORT AGENCY
OFFICE OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS
FOREIGN RELATIONS DIVISION
TRAVEL CONTROL DIVISION (CTB)
PROTOCOL DIVISION
INTERNAL POLITICAL & GOVERNMENTAL DIVISION
SUPERVISING CONSUL GENERAL
DISPLACED POPULATIONS DIVISION
CIVIL AVIATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
LEGAL ADVICE DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE DIVISION
LEGISLATION DIVISION
DECARTELISATION & DECONCENTRATION DIVISION
PRISONS DIVISION
OFFICE OF CHIEF ATTORNEY
US ELEMENT MILITARY SECURITY BOARD
SECRETARIAT
MILITARY DIVISION
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH DIVISION
INDUSTRIAL DIVISION
US HIGH COMMISSION COURTS
COURT OF APPEAL
DISTRICT COURTS
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
EDUCATION & CULTURAL RELATIONS DIVISION
EXCHANGES DIVISION
INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION
PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION
OFFICE OF LABOUR AFFAIRS
LABOUR DIVISION
MANPOWER DIVISION
OFFICE OF INTELLIGENCE
OPERATIONS DIVISION
REPORTS & ANALYSIS DIVISION
STRATEGIC DIVISION
ARMED FORCES DIVISION
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION
ORGANISATION & MANAGEMENT DIVISION
BUDGET & FINANCE DIVISION
REPORTS & STATISTICS DIVISION
PERSONNEL DIVISION
COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
OPERATING FACILITIES DIVISION
US OBSERVERS FRENCH/UK LÄNDER
LAND COMMISSIONER FOR BAVARIA
LAND COMMISSIONER FOR HESSE
LAND COMMISSIONER FOR WÜRTT-BADEN
LAND COMMISSIONER FOR BREMEN
US COMMANDER IN BERLIN

US High Commission for Germany (USHCG) 1 September 1949. (Author's diagram, based on chart from Special Insert in Information Bulletin, Magazine of US Military Government in Germany, 20 September 1949)

The US High Commissioner was the US representative on the Allied Control Council.

- The ECA, Economic Cooperation Administration was a US Government agency set up to administer the Marshall Plan – the High Commissioner as its representative for Germany would therefore supervise the dispersal of funds in that country.
- The US Commander Berlin served as the representative in Berlin of the US High Commissioner for Germany. For military matters, he reported to the Commander-in-Chief European Command.
- Each of the Allied powers also had observers in their fellow High Commissions to help with coordination and communication.

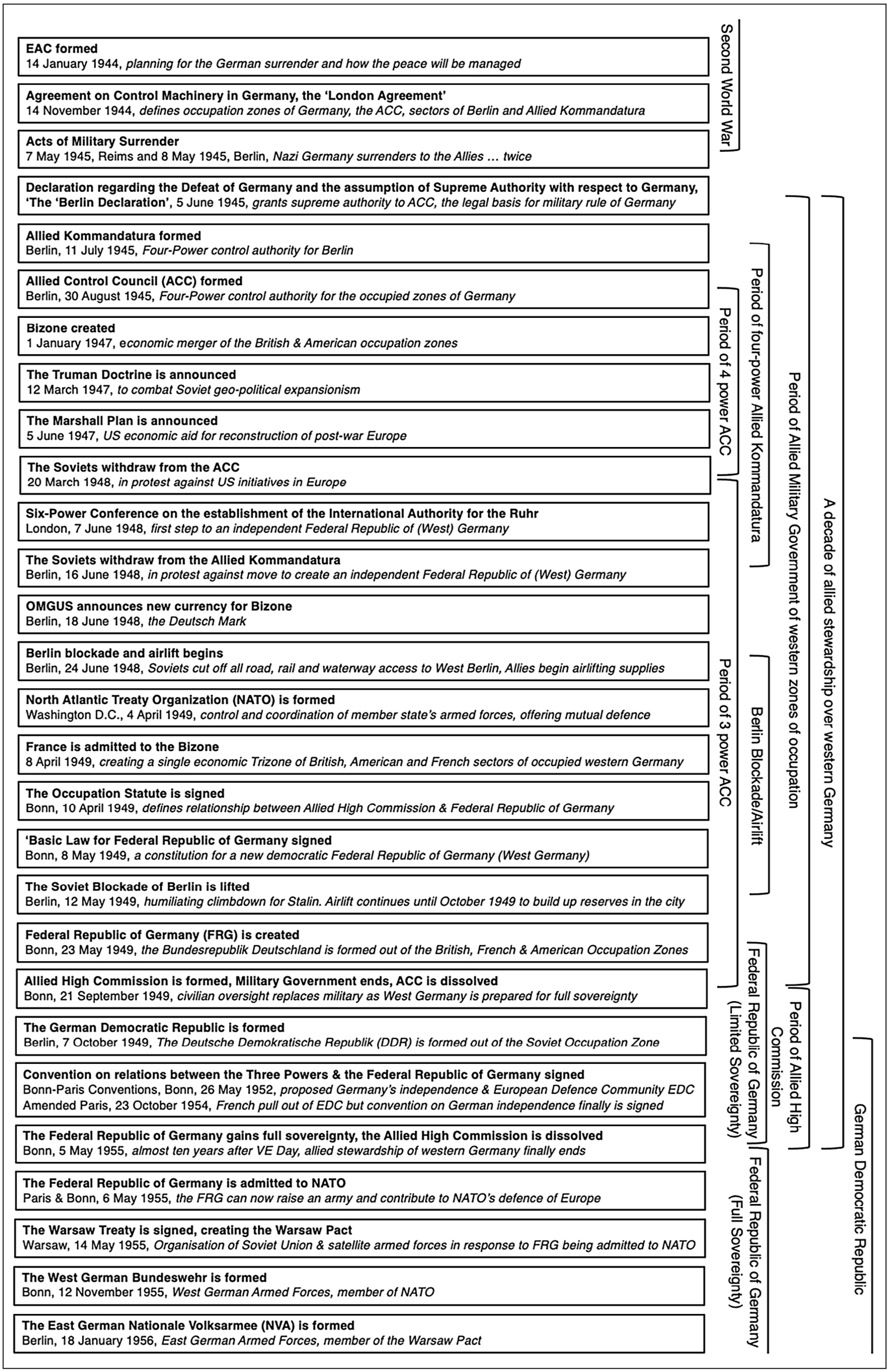
the four-power city of Berlin almost impossible, with the Soviet veto blocking almost every initiative. It is clear in hindsight that the Soviet obstruction and obfuscation was a deliberate ploy to try to get the West to give up on Germany/Berlin, a pattern of behaviour that would follow for years.

Given Stalin's increasingly aggressive stance to the West, it suited the British, French, and Americans to keep forces in both western Germany and the western sectors of Berlin, but they saw the value of an exit strategy which eventually rehabilitated their zones of occupation into a sovereign state. It was becoming abundantly clear that the differences between Stalin and his former allies were irreconcilable and the West were not going to wait around. The disintegration of this alliance which ultimately led to a divided Germany and a divided Berlin began on 1 January 1947 when the British and American zones merged economically to form the Bizone. It was followed on 12 March 1947 by President Truman's first set-piece policy announcement on the Cold War, his 'Truman Doctrine', which provided economic support for Greece and Turkey (and anybody else who needed it) to stop them gravitating towards Moscow, a clear shot across the bows of Soviet expansionism. The Marshall Plan, which was announced on 5 June 1947, offered broad economic support for reconstruction, thus aligning more countries to the West.

The Soviets could see the way things were going, and on 20 March 1948, withdrew from the ACC, effectively bringing four-power governance of Germany to an end. On 7 June 1945, a six-power (US, UK, France and the three Benelux countries: Belgium, Netherlands, and Luxembourg) conference in London, ostensibly to look at the important coal and steel producing region of the Ruhr, first raised the idea that a 'democratic [West] Germany could be brought into the European community to play its part as a fully responsible and independent member.'[6] This was the final straw for the Soviets, and on 16 June 1948 they walked out of the Allied Kommandatura in Berlin, never to return. The momentum of events increased at a pace. On 18 June 1948, OMGUS announced the introduction of new currency for the Bizone, the *Deutsche Mark* or D-Mark, which prompted the most extreme reaction from the Soviets to date, a blockade of the Western sectors of Berlin, which began on 24 June.

In response, the West imposed a trade embargo on the Soviet Zone and began an airlift of supplies to feed the 2.2 million civilians living in the Western sectors of the city. The scale of the airlift was unprecedented in the history of aviation, and the combined efforts of the RAF, the US Air Force, the US Navy, and some British civilian contractors, plus an army of ground and support personnel, pulled off a logistical miracle and fed, provided coal for heating, and supplied every need for the encircled citizens of West Berlin for an amazing 322 days, from 24 June 1948 to 12 May 1949.

The 'German Question' was not fully resolved until 1990–1991 with the *Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany* (*Vertrag über die abschließende Regelung in Bezug auf Deutschland* a.k.a. the *Two Plus Four Agreement*) signed in Moscow on 12 September 1990. German Reunification Day was on 3 October 1990 and Germany became fully sovereign on 15 March 1991. All Soviet forces had to leave the county by 1994.



EAC formed
14 January 1944, *planning for the German surrender and how the peace will be managed*

Agreement on Control Machinery in Germany, the 'London Agreement'
14 November 1944, *defines occupation zones of Germany, the ACC, sectors of Berlin and Allied Kommandatura*

Acts of Military Surrender
7 May 1945, Reims and 8 May 1945, Berlin, *Nazi Germany surrenders to the Allies … twice*

Declaration regarding the Defeat of Germany and the assumption of Supreme Authority with respect to Germany, 'The 'Berlin Declaration', 5 June 1945, *grants supreme authority to ACC, the legal basis for military rule of Germany*

Allied Kommandatura formed
Berlin, 11 July 1945, *Four-Power control authority for Berlin*

Allied Control Council (ACC) formed
Berlin, 30 August 1945, *Four-Power control authority for the occupied zones of Germany*

Bizone created
1 January 1947, *economic merger of the British & American occupation zones*

The Truman Doctrine is announced
12 March 1947, *to combat Soviet geo-political expansionism*

The Marshall Plan is announced
5 June 1947, *US economic aid for reconstruction of post-war Europe*

The Soviets withdraw from the ACC
20 March 1948, *in protest against US initiatives in Europe*

Six-Power Conference on the establishment of the International Authority for the Ruhr
London, 7 June 1948, *first step to an independent Federal Republic of (West) Germany*

The Soviets withdraw from the Allied Kommandatura
Berlin, 16 June 1948, *in protest against move to create an independent Federal Republic of (West) Germany*

OMGUS announces new currency for Bizone
Berlin, 18 June 1948, *the Deutsch Mark*

Berlin blockade and airlift begins
Berlin, 24 June 1948, *Soviets cut off all road, rail and waterway access to West Berlin, Allies begin airlifting supplies*

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is formed
Washington D.C., 4 April 1949, *control and coordination of member state's armed forces, offering mutual defence*

France is admitted to the Bizone
8 April 1949, *creating a single economic Trizone of British, American and French sectors of occupied western Germany*

The Occupation Statute is signed
Bonn, 10 April 1949, *defines relationship between Allied High Commission & Federal Republic of Germany*

'Basic Law for Federal Republic of Germany signed
Bonn, 8 May 1949, *a constitution for a new democratic Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany)*

The Soviet Blockade of Berlin is lifted
Berlin, 12 May 1949, *humiliating climbdown for Stalin. Airlift continues until October 1949 to build up reserves in the city*

Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) is created
Bonn, 23 May 1949, *the Bundesrepublik Deutschland is formed out of the British, French & American Occupation Zones*

Allied High Commission is formed, Military Government ends, ACC is dissolved
Bonn, 21 September 1949, *civilian oversight replaces military as West Germany is prepared for full sovereignty*

The German Democratic Republic is formed
Berlin, 7 October 1949, *The Deutsche Demokratische Republik (DDR) is formed out of the Soviet Occupation Zone*

Convention on relations between the Three Powers & the Federal Republic of Germany signed
Bonn-Paris Conventions, Bonn, 26 May 1952, *proposed Germany's independence & European Defence Community EDC*
Amended Paris, 23 October 1954, *French pull out of EDC but convention on German independence finally is signed*

The Federal Republic of Germany gains full sovereignty, the Allied High Commission is dissolved
Bonn, 5 May 1955, *almost ten years after VE Day, allied stewardship of western Germany finally ends*

The Federal Republic of Germany is admitted to NATO
Paris & Bonn, 6 May 1955, *the FRG can now raise an army and contribute to NATO's defence of Europe*

The Warsaw Treaty is signed, creating the Warsaw Pact
Warsaw, 14 May 1955, *Organisation of Soviet Union & satellite armed forces in response to FRG being admitted to NATO*

The West German Bundeswehr is formed
Bonn, 12 November 1955, *West German Armed Forces, member of NATO*

The East German Nationale Volksarmee (NVA) is formed
Berlin, 18 January 1956, *East German Armed Forces, member of the Warsaw Pact*

Second World War
Period of 4 power ACC
Period of 3 power ACC
Period of four-power Allied Kommandatura
Berlin Blockade/Airlift
Federal Republic of Germany (Limited Sovereignty)
Federal Republic of Germany (Full Sovereignty)
Period of Allied Military Government of western zones of occupation
Period of Allied High Commission
A decade of allied stewardship over western Germany
German Democratic Republic

The path to West German democracy and the division of Germany and Berlin. (Author, from numerous sources)

The combination of the West's seemingly everlasting logistical muscle and the hardship being felt in the Soviet Zone (and presumably in the Soviet Union) because of the West's own blockade forced Stalin to make a humiliating climb-down. Short of Stalin declaring war, the West were not going to be forced out of Berlin.[7]

The military situation also stepped up a gear. On 4 April 1949, a dozen Western countries came together in Washington D.C. to form the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which promised mutual defence in the face of Soviet aggression, declaring that '… an armed attack against one or more of them [member states] in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all.'[8]

With the Berlin Airlift still underway, the rehabilitation of western Germany continued at a pace. On 8 April 1949, France was admitted into the Bizone (now a *Tri*zone), creating a single economic entity of the three Western zones of occupation – a key building block for an independent Germany. A couple of days later, on 10 April, the Allied military governors signed *The Occupation Statute of Germany* (*Besatzungsstatut*), which laid down the future relationship between a Federal Republic of Germany and a civilian Allied High Commission for Germany, the supervising body that would replace military government of the occupation zones. The Allies retained the right to keep occupational forces in the country and have complete control over disarmament, demilitarisation, related fields of scientific research, war reparations, the Ruhr, decartelisation, foreign trade, the level of industrial production, displaced persons and refugees, protection, prestige and security of the occupying forces, foreign affairs, and foreign trade/exchange. The Federal Republic could only act in these spheres with Allied permission. It also heralded the end of military government for the three Western occupation zones of Germany and a move to civilian oversight.[9] The statute was promulgated (announced) on 12 May 1949 – the same day as the Berlin Blockade was lifted – and came into effect on 21 September 1949 at the first meeting of the High Commission, which heralded the official liquidation of the Allied Control Council and the three Allied military governments, and the official transfer of power to civilian oversight under the High Commission.[10] The Occupation Statute was amended by the Petersberg Agreement, signed by the High Commissioners on 22 November, loosening some of the terms of the Occupation Statute in relation to industry, trade, and international relations, moving West Germany further down the road to sovereignty. The Allied High Commission (also known as the High Commission for Occupied Germany or HICOG) based itself at the Hotel Petersberg in Bonn, the Federal Government's official guest house and conference venue, the German 'Camp David.'

The road to an independent Germany, at least for the western zones, was all but confirmed with the adoption of the *Basic law for the Federal Republic of Germany* (*Grundgesetz*) by the West German Parliamentary Council in Bonn on 8 May 1949, four years to the day after VE Day, which shows the progress made by the EAC, the Allied military governments and Control Commission in nation-building. This law was a constitution for the future Federal Republic of Germany in all but name, deliberately left open for a possible unified Germany, albeit on Western terms. The law was ratified in the week of 16 to 22 May 1949 by the parliaments of more than two thirds of the participating German *Länder* (States), approved by the Western Allies on 12 May 1949 and promulgated on 23 May 1949 – the Federal Republic of Germany (or FRG, *Bundesrepublik Deutschland* or BRD, a.k.a. The Bonn Republic or West Germany) was born. Elections for the new West German Parliament (the *Bundestag*) were held on 14 August 1949 and Konrad Adenauer of the CDU became its first Chancellor. Although tightly controlled by the new Allied High Commission, and limited in its powers, it was the first democracy Germany had experienced in decades. The creation of the FRG did, however, sound the death knell for a unified Germany and on 7 October 1949 the Soviet occupation zone became the German Democratic Republic (GDR, *Deutsche Demokratische Republik*, DDR), with Walter Ulbricht at the helm. The battle lines were drawn.

There were still several obstacles in the way before the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG, West Germany) could become a full sovereign state, that is without the oversight of the High Commission. Firstly, there was the legacy of the official declarations of war made against Germany by the British on 3 September 1939, the Soviets on 22 June 1941 and the United States on 11 December 1941. Although the Germans surrendered to the Allies in May 1945, there was no peace treaty signed (after the debacle of Versailles no-one was very keen on revisiting such a treaty) and so all three of the Allies were technically still at war with Germany. This matter was resolved on 19 September 1950 at a meeting of the foreign ministers from the three Allied powers in New York, where they discussed the liberalisation of relations with the FRG through a simplification of the Occupation Statute and its potential re-arming. The three governments also decided, 'as soon as action can be taken in all three countries in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements, to take the necessary steps in their domestic legislation to terminate the state of war with Germany.'[11] This was resolved in July 1951 by the United Kingdom and France, and in October 1951 by the United States, both to clear the way for West German sovereignty.[12] The USSR did not declare the war with Germany over until January 1955, but this had nothing to do with West Germany, it was an attempt to give the DDR some status and authority (that the West pointedly ignored).

A major stumbling block for West Germany's rehabilitation was re-armament, with painful memories of the Second World War still very much in people's minds. However, the Western powers recognised the strategic position West Germany had at the centre of Europe and with commitments in multiple regions of the world (Korea, Malaya, Southeast Asia), the Western alliance desperately needed a strong German army to help deter Soviet expansionism. The 1948 Brussels Treaty promised mutual defence between the UK, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg, but no-one was really in any doubt about this collective's ability to repel the Soviet hoards – a re-armed Germany still had a role to play. However, in the early 1950s, West Germany did not have an army, a General Staff, a Ministry of Defence or even a Foreign Ministry to contribute to the discussion.

In the meantime, the first steps towards a federalised Europe were being taken with the signing of the treaty in Paris establishing the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) on 18 April 1951. This brought together France, West Germany, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands in a 'common market' for the coal and steel industries – so critical for the rebuilding of Europe. With pressure from the Americans and NATO, the French looked to tackle the thorny issue of German re-armament with the creation of a European army, of which West Germany would be a part, operating under a single European military and political authority. Only five years on from the end of the Second World War, this was a courageous and highly symbolic proposal. The French Premier, René Pleven, proposed a 100,000 strong European Army, run by a

European Minister of Defence and under a European budget, which would be placed under the supreme command of NATO.

The surrendering of national sovereignty in relation to defence was a step too far for the rest of Europe, but through the ECSC (and hard lobbying from the Americans) a revised plan got some traction. This culminated in the *Convention on Relations Between the Three Powers* [the USA, UK and France] *and the Federal Republic of Germany*, a.k.a. the *Bonn-Paris Conventions*, signed in Bonn on 26 May 1952, which went a long way to rehabilitating West Germany.[13] It foresaw the time when the *Statute of Occupation and the High Commission* would be redundant, and a 'fully free and unified Germany' would be integrated 'on a basis of equality' within the European and a 'developing' Atlantic community. Note that the Convention was still holding out for a *unified* Germany, when on the very same day it was signed, the government of the DDR issued the *Decree on Measures regarding the Demarcation Line between the German Democratic Republic and the Western Occupation Zones of Germany* which closed the 1,400km (870 miles) border between West and East Germany – the Inner German Border – all the way from the Baltic coast to the Czechoslovakian border.

The Convention went much further than Pleven's proposal and envisaged a 'European Defence Community' (EDC) comprising 40 national divisions, each with 13,000 soldiers (520,000 in total) and wearing a common uniform. This agreement, like the ECSC treaty, would run for 50 years (up to 2002) but needed to be ratified by *all* the signatory states. However, this ratification proved to be a problem as internal divisions in the French government caused postponement after postponement, which was ironic because it was the French who came up with the idea in the first place. On 30 August 1954, a vote in the French National Assembly effectively killed the idea of the EDC, leaving the original issue, the re-armament of West Germany, in limbo.

The impasse was finally broken by some hasty shuttle diplomacy by British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, proposing that a re-armed West Germany become a full member of NATO and the references to a European Defence Community in the Bonn-Paris conventions should be removed. This amendment was accepted by all parties and the revised treaty was signed at a ceremony in Paris on 23 October 1954.[14]

The three Allied powers officially ended their occupation of West Germany and the new Federal Republic finally gained full sovereignty on 5 May 1955, and with it, the right to raise its own armed forces. At a ceremony at Schloss Deichmannsaue in Bonn (the home of the US High Commission to Germany), the three Allied High Commissioners signed a document entitled *Proclamation Concerning the Termination of the Occupation Statute and the Dissolution of the Allied High Commission and the Länder Commissions*, thus ending a decade of Allied stewardship.[15]

As per Anthony Eden's plan, West Germany was accepted into NATO the following day, on 6 May 1955.[16] The Soviet Union's response to this was the signing of the Warsaw Treaty on 14 May 1955 which created the Warsaw Pact, the looser military association of Soviet satellite states (Albania, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, the DDR, Poland, Romania, and the USSR, who pulled all the strings) designed to counter NATO.[17] The West German *Bundeswehr* (Armed Forces) was duly formed on 12 November 1955 at the Ermekeil Barracks in Bonn, swiftly followed on 18 January 1956 by the creation of the *Nationale Volksarmee* (NVA, the East German Armed Forces).[18]

2

US HEADQUARTERS IN BERLIN

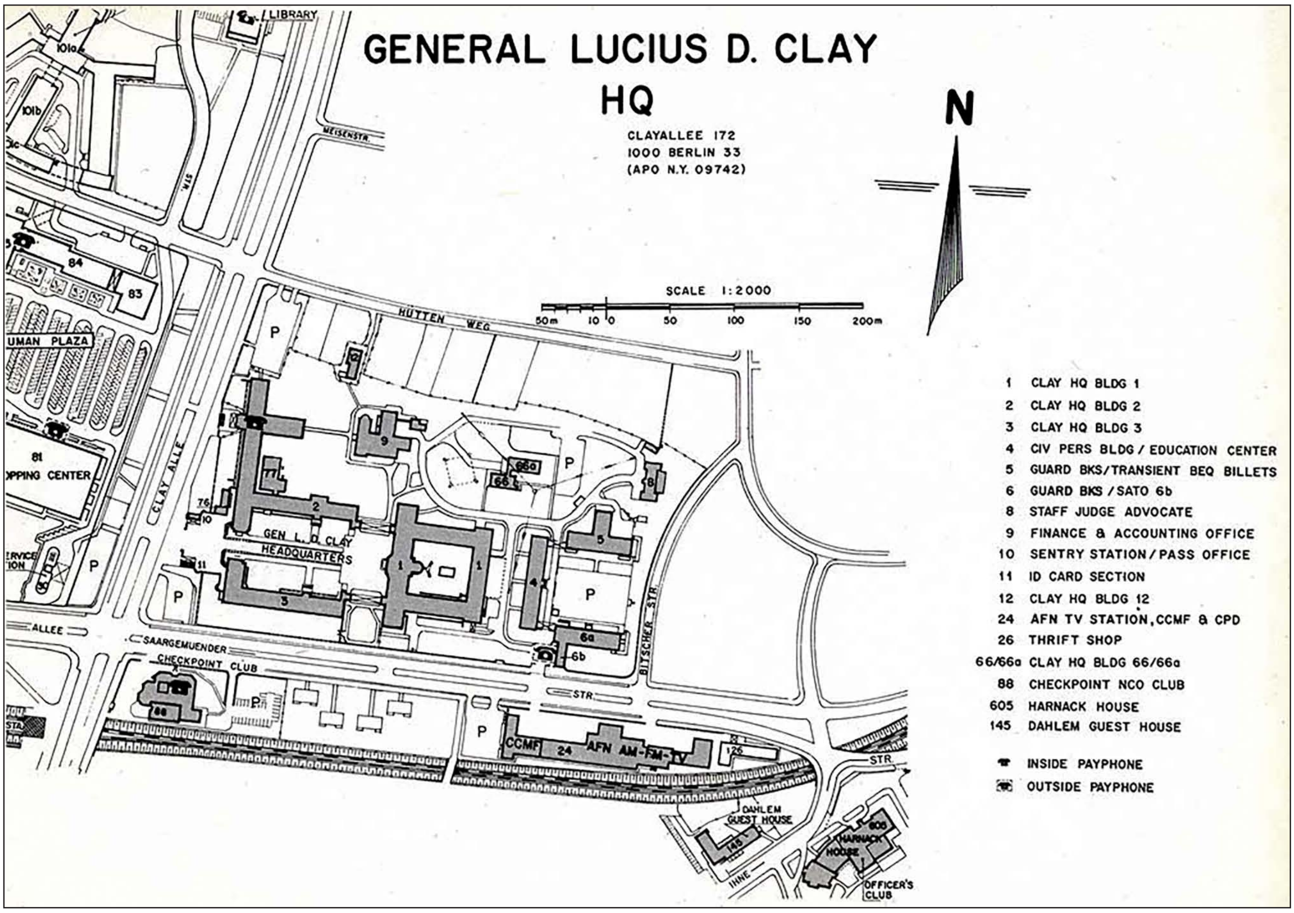
The make-up of US forces in West Berlin very much reflected the developing priorities of the US Government and their policies concerning Europe, which changed regularly over the four decades of the Cold War. The name of the US military command in the city also changed, as the Army reorganised itself time and time again. The first troops to enter Berlin in 1945 became the 'Berlin Military District', but this would change in November 1946 to 'Berlin Command'; in May 1948 to 'Berlin Military Post'; and in December 1952 back to 'Berlin Command.' On 1 December 1961 the US Army, Berlin (USAB) was created as a as a major subordinate command of USAREUR. The US commander, Berlin, therefore, became the commanding general, US Army, Berlin, and the tactical units that had formerly constituted the Berlin Command became elements of a new subordinate command designated the Berlin Brigade. This formation remained until the end of the Cold War.

The headquarters of the US Military Government and the Berlin Brigade was at a large former *Luftwaffe* compound on Kronprinzenallee in the district of Berlin-Zehlendorf towards the bottom of the American Sector. On 7 July 1945, the US Army occupied a site which housed *Luftgaukommando-Mitte*, the centralised organisation controlling the air defence of Nazi Germany. The facility was built between 1936 and 1938 as home to *Luftgaukommando III*, one of seven *Luftwaffe* district headquarters reporting directly to *Reichsmarschall* Hermann Göring, transferring to *Luftgaukommando-Mitte* in 1943. It survived the war with not too much damage and the US Army confiscated it under *Allied Law No.52*, which concerned 'Former German Reich' property.

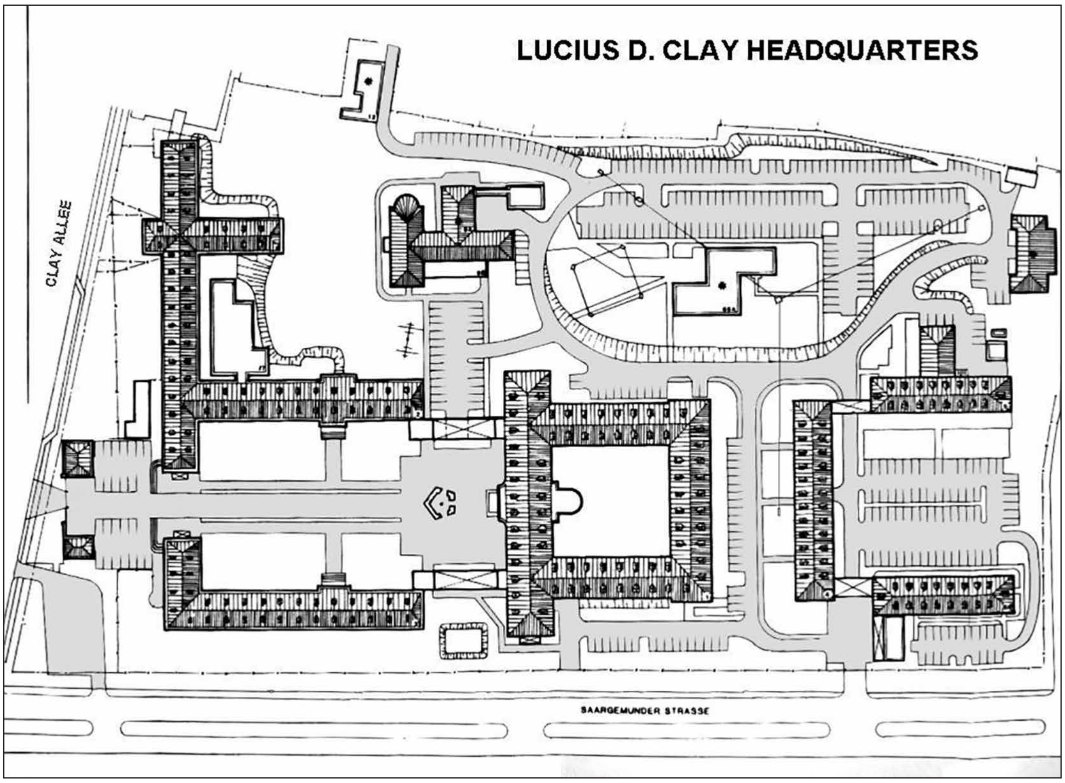
In 1949, the West Berlin *Senat* renamed Kronprinzenallee as Clayallee in honour of General Lucius D. Clay, the 'Hero of the Berlin Airlift'. Under the US Army's memorialisation policy, no installation may be named after a living person (the *Senat* was not so fussy), so it was not until May 1979 after Clay had died that the headquarters complex was named the General Lucius D. Clay Headquarters.[1] The official dedication reads:

TO THE LIVING MEMORY OF
GENERAL LUCIUS D. CLAY
SOLDIER – STATESMAN – INDUSTRIALIST – PATRIOT
1897 – 1978

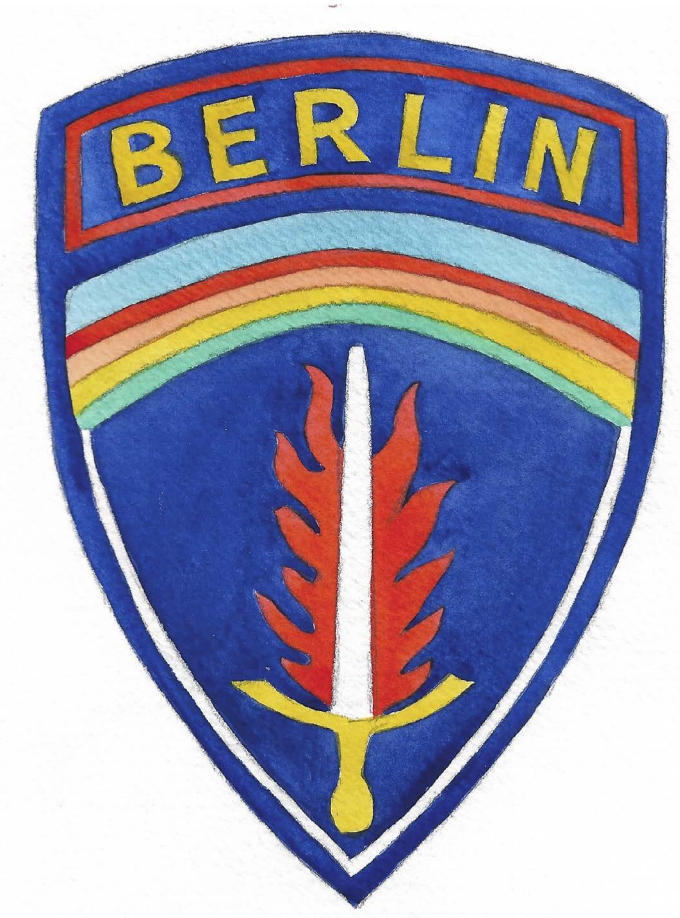
The site was home to the US Military Government of Germany until 1949, and then housed the Office of the US Commander, Berlin, the US Mission, Berlin (State Department, reporting to the American High Commission in Bonn and then to the US Ambassador) and the Commander of the Berlin Brigade, the triumvirate of US power in Berlin. In addition, it housed the US Consulate and the Berlin Operating Base (Station) of the CIA.


GENERAL LUCIUS D. CLAY
HQ
CLAYALLEE 172
1000 BERLIN 33
(APO N.Y. 09742)
N
SCALE 1:2000
50m 10 0 50 100 150 200m
1 CLAY HQ BLDG 1
2 CLAY HQ BLDG 2
3 CLAY HQ BLDG 3
4 CIV PERS BLDG / EDUCATION CENTER
5 GUARD BKS/TRANSIENT BEQ BILLETS
6 GUARD BKS / SATO 6b
8 STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
9 FINANCE & ACCOUNTING OFFICE
10 SENTRY STATION / PASS OFFICE
11 ID CARD SECTION
12 CLAY HQ BLDG 12
24 AFN TV STATION, CCMF & CPD
26 THRIFT SHOP
66/66a CLAY HQ BLDG 66/66a
88 CHECKPOINT NCO CLUB
605 HARNACK HOUSE
145 DAHLEM GUEST HOUSE
INSIDE PAYPHONE
OUTSIDE PAYPHONE
LIBRARY
MEISENSTR.
HUTTEN WEG
CLAY ALLE
UMAN PLAZA
PPING CENTER
GEN. L. D. CLAY HEADQUARTERS
SAARGEMUENDER STR.
CHECKPOINT CLUB
BITSCHER STR.
CCMF
AFN AM-FM-TV
DAHLEM GUEST HOUSE
HARNACK HOUSE
OFFICER'S CLUB
IHNE
STR.
ALLEE
P

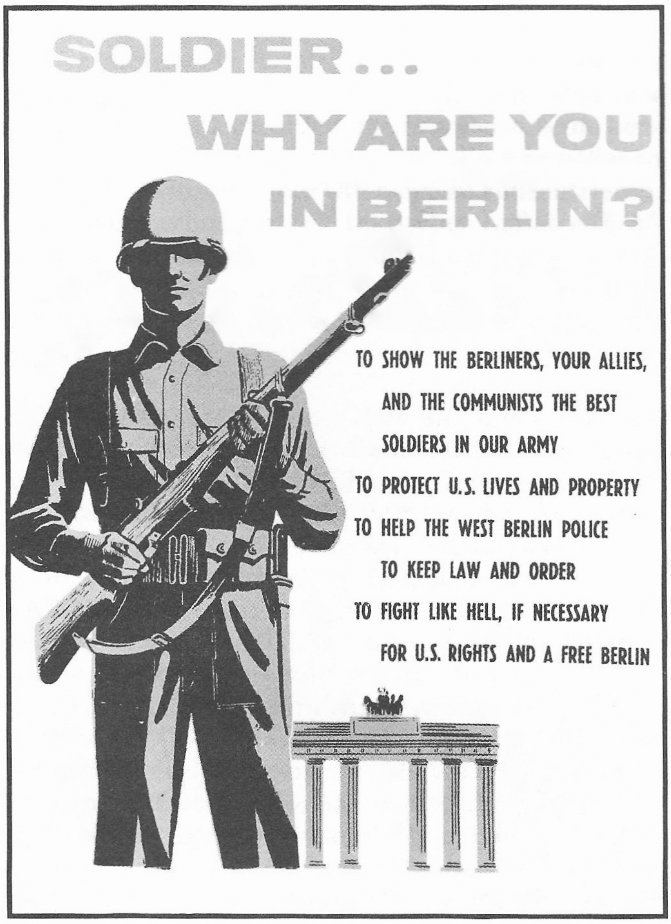
Plan of the General Lucius D Clay Headquarters, West Berlin c.1985. Area includes (from left to right): Truman Plaza, Checkpoint NCO's Club, AFN studios, Dahlem Guest House, Harnack House officer's club. (Walter Elkins, usarmygermany.com)


LUCIUS D. CLAY HEADQUARTERS
CLAY ALLEE
SAARGEMUNDER STRASSE

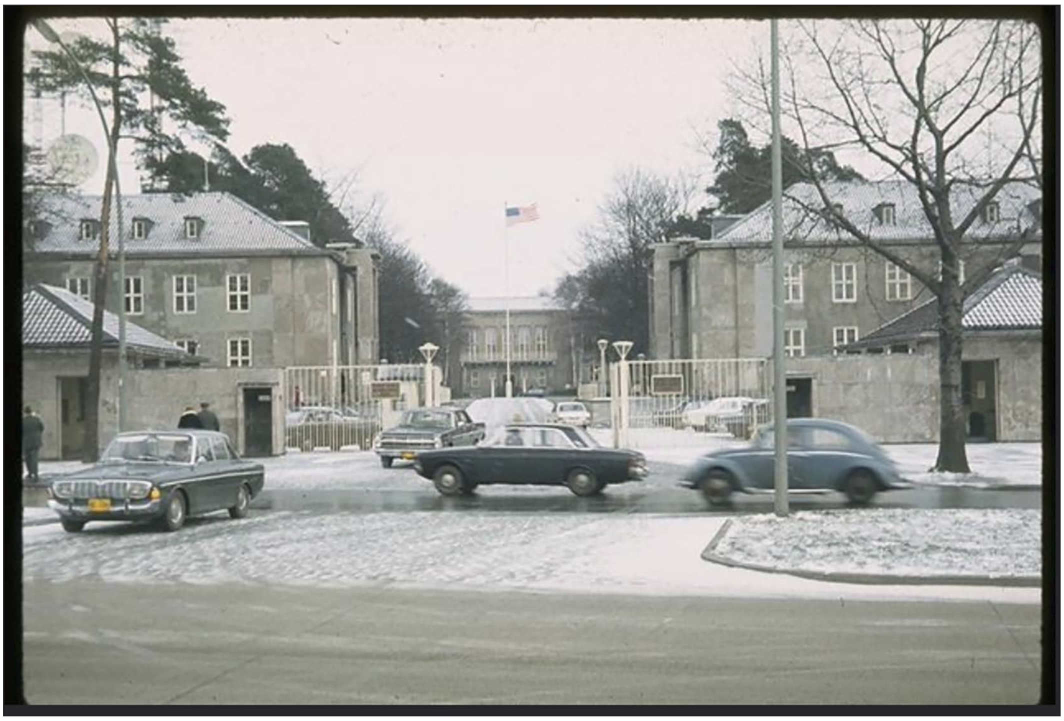
Detailed plan of the General Lucius D. Clay Headquarters. (US Army Berlin Brigade Directorate of Engineering and Housing)



Shoulder Sleeve Insignia of the Berlin Brigade, US Army (See Appendix IX for more information on the unit's heraldry). (Renato Dalmaso)


SOLDIER...
WHY ARE YOU
IN BERLIN?
TO SHOW THE BERLINERS, YOUR ALLIES, AND THE COMMUNISTS THE BEST SOLDIERS IN OUR ARMY
TO PROTECT U.S. LIVES AND PROPERTY
TO HELP THE WEST BERLIN POLICE TO KEEP LAW AND ORDER
TO FIGHT LIKE HELL, IF NECESSARY FOR U.S. RIGHTS AND A FREE BERLIN

Poster aimed at US service personnel based in West Berlin. (US National Archives)



The main entrance to US Headquarters with Ford staff cars exiting, winter 1971. (R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)

Photograph of the US Headquarters Complex on Clayallee taken from the PX parking lot at Truman Plaza. It clearly shows the microwave communications dishes used to communicate with West Germany via the Fernmeldturm communications tower on Schäferberg, winter 1970. (R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)

3

POLICING AND GUARDING WEST BERLIN

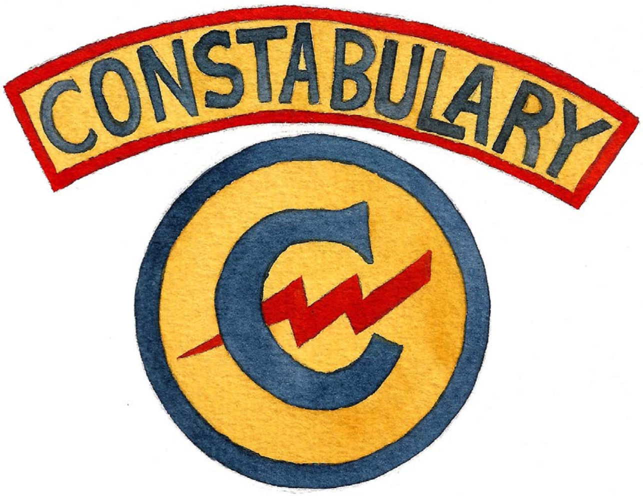
US Constabulary

The first American troops to enter Berlin were an advance party on 1 July 1945, led by Colonel Frank Howley, deputy to Major General Floyd L. Parks, commanding officer of the 2nd 'Hell on Wheels' Armored Division. Howley was followed on 4 July 1945 by the rest of the 2nd Armored Division led by Major General Parks, becoming the first major US Army unit to be based in Berlin, forming the 'Berlin Military District.' Parks also became the first American commandant of the city and was the US representative on the Allied Kommandatura. The 2nd Armored were battle hardened combat troops, many of whom had been in theatre for a long time as the Allies fought their way across Europe. They were excellent at fighting, but wholly unsuitable as garrison troops or as a policing force. This unsuitability had been foreseen as far back as 1943 by a British officer, Lieutenant General Sir Frederick Morgan, who was Chief of Staff, Supreme Allied Commander (COSSAC), the organisational predecessor of Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF). If OVERLORD was the plan for the invasion of Europe and the eventual defeat of Hitler, then ECLIPSE was the plan for the peace, the eventual occupation of Germany by Allied troops.[1] ECLIPSE was the military occupation plan that ran alongside the political occupation planning that was being undertaken by the EAC.

However, while the longer-term plans were put in place, combat units across Germany would have to adapt to the job. At the same time, the US was beginning the redeployment to other theatres of the war (the battle for Japan) or the long-awaited repatriation and demobilisation of the hundreds of thousands of their troops in Europe and the start of the so-called peace dividend (or so they thought at the time). That resulted in an excessive rate of churn as personnel were rotated in and out, making continuity and consistency real concerns in those important weeks and months following VE Day.

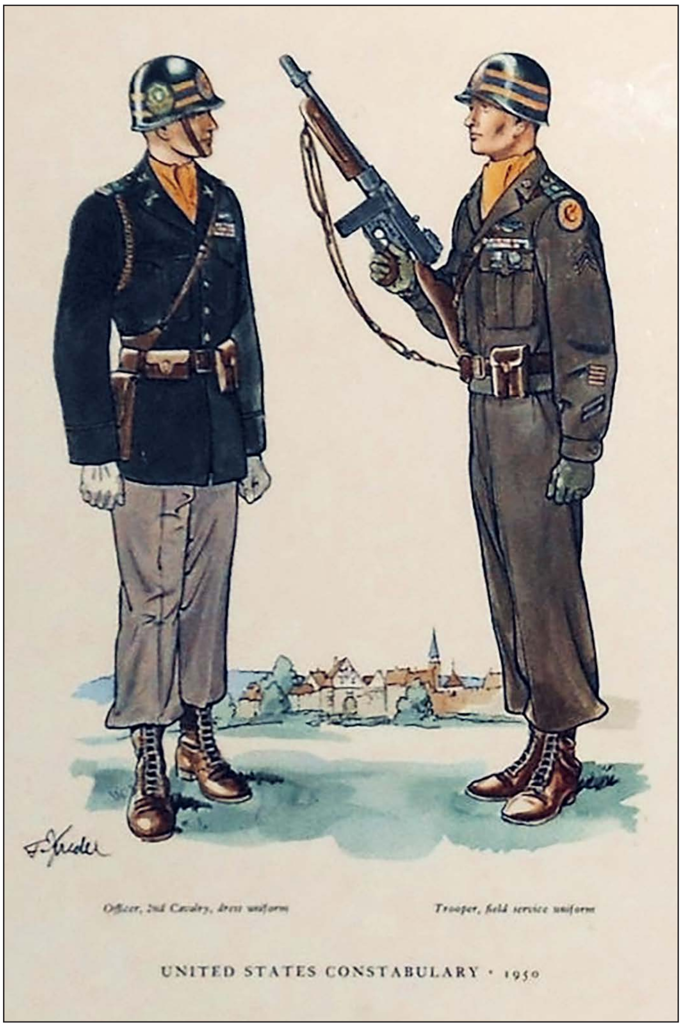
Apart from being at the epicentre of the new European order, the Berlin garrison was no different to countless other US Army units across Germany and had a quick succession of changes to its composition. On 9 August 1945, the 2nd Armored Division was relieved by elements of the 82nd Airborne Division (325th Glider Infantry Regiment, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment) under Major General James Gavin, who became the second US Commandment of Berlin in two months. The 82nd was relieved in November 1945 by elements of the 78th 'Lightning' Infantry Division (309th Infantry Regiment, 310th Infantry Regiment, 311th Infantry Regiment) led by Major General Ray W. Barker, who became the third US Commandant of Berlin.[2] The 78th was duly relieved in April 1946 by the 3rd Infantry Regiment, the 'Old Guard', and Major General Frank A. Keating took over as Commandant, the fourth holder of that position in under a year. In October 1946, the 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment replaced the 3rd Infantry, and the 'Old Guard', which could trace its roots back to 1784, was deactivated on 20 November 1946 and its men dispersed to other commands.[3]

In October 1945, recognising the need for a longer-term solution for an occupation force, Eisenhower announced the formation of a special 'constabulary' of 38,000 men. It was to be an elite force, highly mobile with good communications, who would maintain general military and civil security. It would be called the US Constabulary, modelled on a relatively successful experiment in



Shoulder Sleeve Insignia of the US Constabulary, with an unofficial 'Constabulary' flash used by the 16th US Constabulary (Separate) in West Berlin. The flash was adopted as a good conduct award, being presented to troopers after a month's incident free service. Note the unusual treatment of the L and A. (Renato Dalmaso)

Major General Ernest N. Harmon resplendent in his US Constabulary helmet liner standing in the turret of a M8 Greyhound armoured car adorned with the Circle C insignia. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

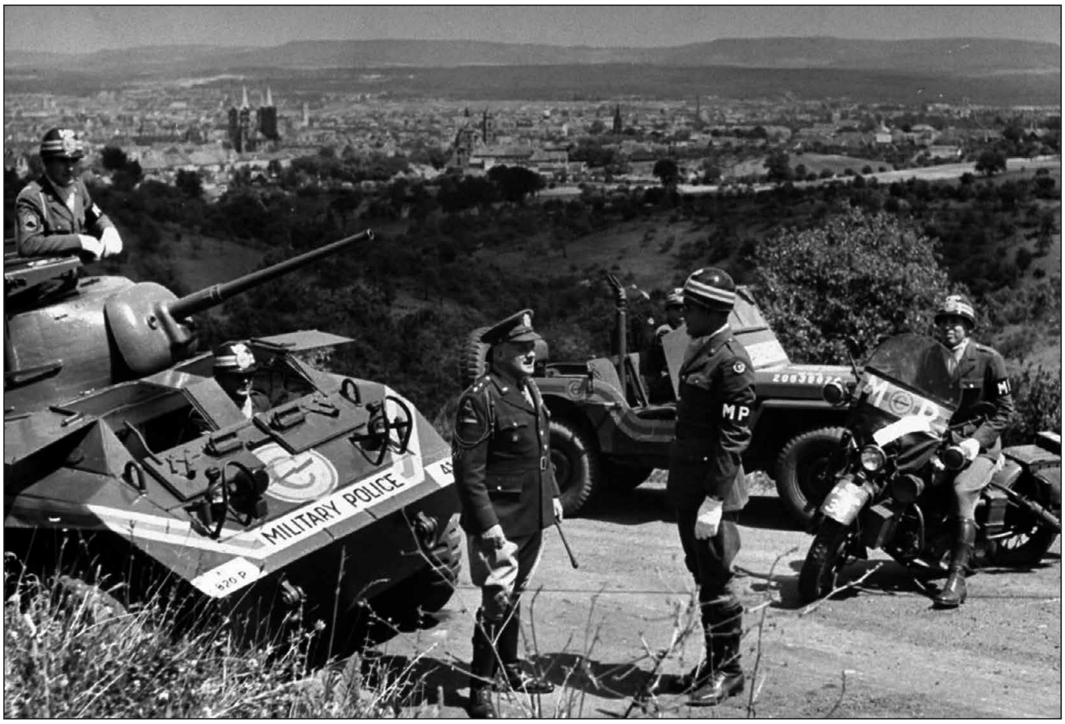

Officer, 2nd Cavalry, dress uniform
Trooper, field service uniform
UNITED STATES CONSTABULARY · 1950

Poster showing the distinctive US Constabulary uniform for officers and enlisted men. Note the trousers 'bloused' into their boots, the leather Sam Browne belt, Circle C shoulder patch, yellow neck scarf and painted helmet liner. The soldier is holding a Thompson sub-machine gun, but most mobile troopers (in armoured cars or jeeps) would have carried M1 Garand rifles or M3 'Grease Gun' sub-machine guns. (Bruce C. Clarke Library Digital Repository, Ike Skelton Combined Arms Research Library Digital Library, Fort Leavenworth, KS, USA)

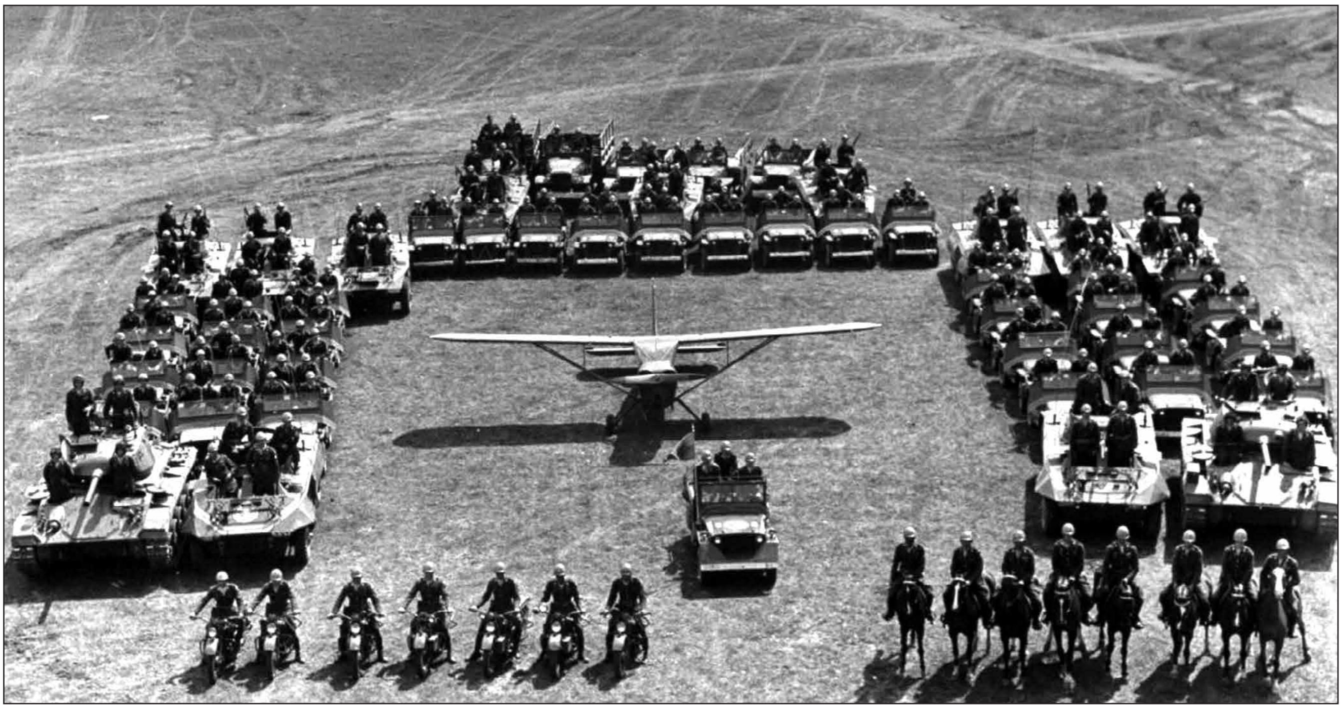
the Philippines after that country was liberated from the Japanese in October 1944. It would be more mobile than an infantry unit but have more firepower than the conventional Military Police. The figure of 38,000 was from a simple calculation – they figured that a cavalry style 'recon' troop of 140 men could cover 225 square miles. The US occupation zone was 43,000 square miles, so it would need 192 troops, which equates to just under 27,000 soldiers. Add the various support units and the figure came to 38,000. However, because of manpower issues in the immediate years following the end of the war, the Constabulary peaked at around 32,000 men.

It should be noted that at this stage, despite all the lessons learnt from Potsdam and the shenanigans over access to Berlin, Truman still believed he could 'do business' with Stalin and had not accepted Churchill's repeated warnings that the Soviet leader could not be trusted. The Constabulary was therefore to be a defensive 'policing' force, rather than a sitting army, enforcing the edicts of the US Military Government on the civilian population, and controlling the borders of the US Zone of occupation. Most of the 1st and 4th Armored divisions located in Germany were converted into Constabulary units, along with elements of the seven mechanised cavalry groups and various other armoured, tank destroyer and self-propelled anti-aircraft units in Europe, as Eisenhower's vision for peacetime Germany played out.[4]

Major General Ernest N. Harmon, a protégée of Patton, was appointed the first Commanding General of the Constabulary and he brought with him the hard charging ethos of the famous cavalry regiments of old. The troopers would be the highly professional and ubiquitous face of the US occupation, undertaking high-profile patrols in armoured cars and jeeps. They would be operating in small groups, often far from their headquarters and were empowered with unusual authority and responsibility. Harmon was a tough disciplinarian, and expected a lot of his men, but there can be no doubt that he built a



Major General Ernest N. Harmon with a US Constabulary patrol comprising an M8 armoured car, a Jeep and motorcycle. Note the riding breeches and three-buckle cavalry boots. These troopers are wearing MP armbands, which were not normally worn. (Albert Grandolini Collection)



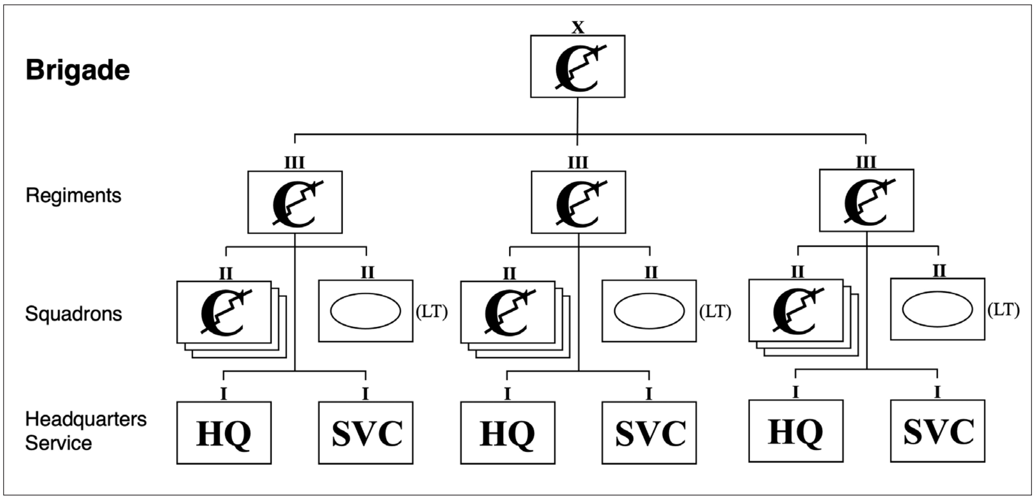
The US Constabulary assembled for a publicity photo. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

Clockwise from bottom left:

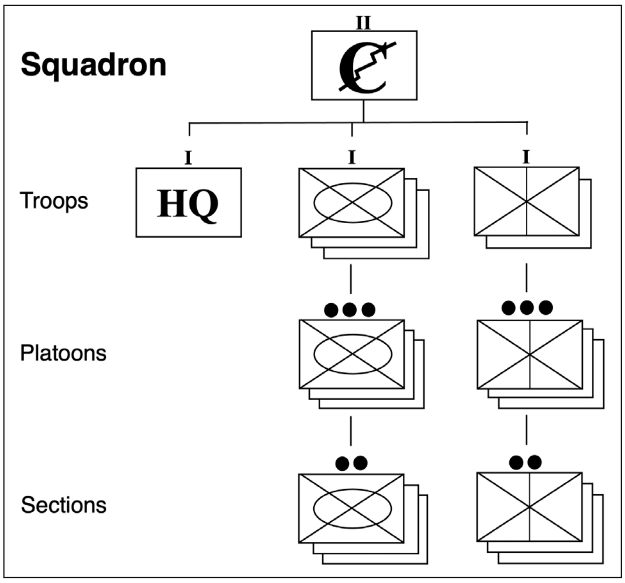
- Harley-Davidson WLA – the standard US motorcycle during the Second World War and Korea.
- M20 armoured utility car.
- M24 Chaffee light tank.
- US Army Truck, 1⁄4-ton, 4×4, Command Reconnaissance (jeep).
- M8 Greyhound armoured car.
- Jeeps.
- GMC CCKW (G-508) 2½-ton (‘Deuce and a half’) 6×6 and Chevrolet G-506 1 ½-ton 4×4 trucks.
- M8 Greyhounds.
- Jeeps.
- M24 Chaffee.
- M20 Utility Car.
- Mounted troopers from the Horse Platoon

Centre:

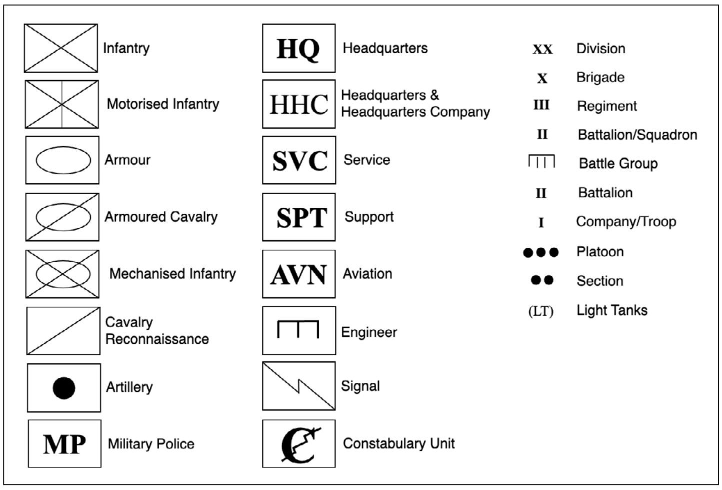
- Jeep
- Stinson L5 Sentinel observation/spotter aircraft


Brigade
X
Regiments
III
III
III
Squadrons
II
II
(LT)
II
II
(LT)
II
II
(LT)
Headquarters
Service
I
HQ
I
SVC
I
HQ
I
SVC
I
HQ
I
SVC

US Constabulary Brigade Structure (Author, based on Gott)


Squadron
II
Troops
I
HQ
I
I
Platoons
●●●
●●●
Sections
●●
●●

US Constabulary Squadron Structure, 1946. (Author, based on Gott)


Infantry
Motorised Infantry
Armour
Armoured Cavalry
Mechanised Infantry
Cavalry Reconnaissance
Artillery
MP
Military Police
HQ
Headquarters
HHC
Headquarters & Headquarters Company
SVC
Service
SPT
Support
AVN
Aviation
Engineer
Signal
Constabulary Unit
XX
Division
X
Brigade
III
Regiment
II
Battalion/Squadron
Battle Group
II
Battalion
I
Company/Troop
●●●
Platoon
●●
Section
(LT)
Light Tanks

Key to Formation Diagrams. (Author, Various sources including NATO APP-6 Military Symbols for Land Based Systems, July 1986)

To the uninitiated, the symbols used by the military, and standardised by NATO, can be baffling, but there is a logic to the system, giving soldiers from different NATO members a common visual language for charts and maps. The rectangle denotes the individual unit within an organisational structure, the shape inside the rectangle gives the type of unit (armoured, infantry etc) and the roman numeral or shape above it denotes the size of that unit (brigade, company etc). Stacked rectangles denote multiple units at that level of the hierarchy. The oval shape denotes an armoured unit, while the large cross from corner to corner denotes infantry. It gets more complicated when multiple descriptions are used, for example, the 'mechanized' Constabulary troop (a company in normal military terminology) are infantry (large cross) and use M8 armoured cars (the oval for 'armour'), while the 'motorized' troop is depicted with the large cross for 'infantry' with a vertical line in the centre for 'motorized.'

very distinctive and motivated unit – their motto being 'Mobility, Vigilance, and Justice.'

Harmon designed a distinctive uniform for his men, intended to distinguish them from ordinary soldiers, project their 'elite' status, and establish a strong esprit de corps.[5] The authorized badge for the unit (DUI, Distinctive Unit Insignia), personally designed by Harmon, was a yellow/gold circle, edged in blue with a large blue C in the middle. The C, for Constabulary, was bisected by a red lightning bolt, denoting firepower. Yellow was the colour associated with the cavalry, blue with infantry, and red with artillery, and this insignia appeared as shoulder patches, on vehicles, buildings, and signs, adding a splash of colour to army olive drab. The Constabulary became known as the 'Circle C Cowboys' and the Germans referred to them as the *Blitzpolizei*, the 'Lightning Police.' The Constabulary troopers certainly looked the part – they tucked (bloused) their trousers into their specially designed highly polished boots like paratroopers, wore bright yellow scarves round their necks and their shiny shellacked helmet liners featured the badge and broad yellow and blue stripes.[6] Rather than using webbing, they would wear old style 'Sam Browne' leather belts, with leather holsters and magazine pouches. Mounted troopers (horse or motorbike) would wear old style three-buckle cavalry boots and riding breeches.

The US Constabulary was formally established on 1 July 1946 with its headquarters at Bamberg in northern Bavaria. In February 1947 it moved to Heidelberg and a year later moved for the final time

An M24 Chaffee light tank of the US Constabulary somewhere in West Germany. In the context of post-war Constabulary operations, the M24 was considerably over-specified, but its presence in the towns and villages of West Germany and the streets of West Berlin would have been reassuring for their citizens and a deterrent to organised criminals. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

A Stinson L-5 Sentinel reconnaissance aircraft flies over M8 Greyhound armoured cars of the US Constabulary. Publicity photograph, c.1946. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

M8 Greyhound armoured cars of the US Constabulary arriving back from patrol. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

to Stuttgart-Vaihingen. Using terminology from the old cavalry days rather than the modern army, the structure was as follows:

Three ‘brigades’, one each for the three *Länder* (States) that made up the US Zone (thus being in line with the structure of the Military Government) and each commanded by a brigadier general.

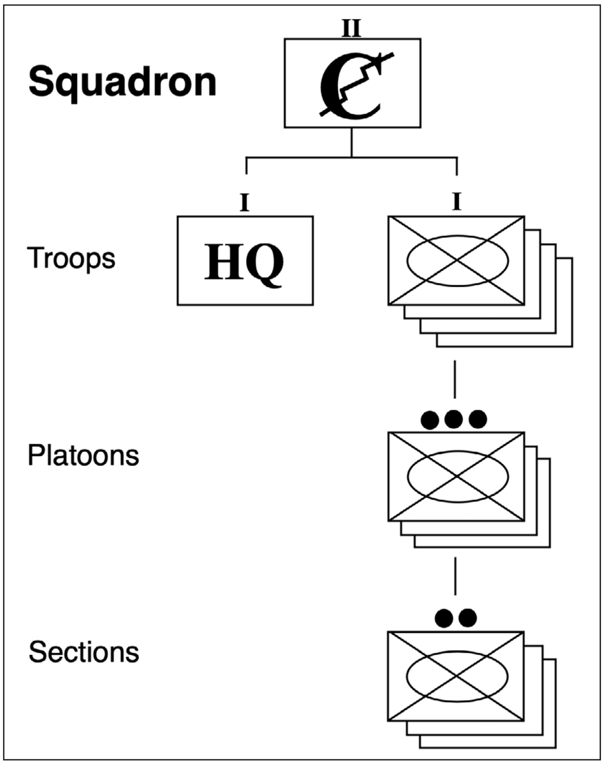
Each brigade would have three ‘regiments’ (commanded by colonels).

Each regiment would have three ‘squadrons’ (commanded by lieutenant colonels) and a light tank company comprising 17 M24 Chaffee light tanks. They would be supported by a headquarters and service company (signals, medical, motor pool, administration etc), a motorcycle platoon (an officer, 25 enlisted men and 25 motorcycles) for escort and highway (*autobahn*) patrol duties, a heavy weapons platoon in reserve, and a horse platoon with 30 horses for public order duty, ceremonials or to tackle difficult cross-country terrain. Each regiment would also have its own band and an aviation section with nine observation/spotter aircraft (six Piper L-4 Grasshopper and three Stinson L-5 Sentinels).

Each squadron would have five ‘troops’, the primary unit of the Constabulary, consisting of five officers and 155 enlisted men. It was made up of three ‘Mechanized’ troops, two ‘Motorized’ troops and a headquarters troop.

‘Mechanized’ troops were made up of three ‘platoons’, each comprising three reconnaissance ‘sections’ of 13 men led by a lieutenant or staff sergeant. Each troop was allocated 10 M8 Greyhound Armored Cars (see below), three per platoon plus a command vehicle (sometimes a M20 Armored Utility Car, a turretless command variant of the M8, fitted with additional radios), and three 1/4-ton jeeps.[7]

They would be accompanied by a German policeman to act as a translator and to arrest any German nationals or DPs (displaced or stateless persons, refugees who were displaced from their own countries by war), while the Americans would handle US citizens (troopers also had power of arrest over civilians/DPs). The jeeps would be armed with .30-cal light machine guns, while the individual



US Constabulary Squadron Structure, July 1947. (Author, based on Rauer)

Constabulary officers inspecting troopers at the constabulary school at Sonthofen. (US National Archives)

troopers would carry a .45-cal M3 'Grease Gun' sub-machine gun (five per section) or a .30-cal M1 Garand semi-automatic rifle (7 per section) and .45-cal Colt semi-automatic pistols as personal weapons (13 per section). Patrols were in touch with their headquarters and up the chain of command via mobile radio sets.

'Motorized' troops consisted of three motorised 'platoons', each with three motorised 'sections' of 12 men led by a staff sergeant, using trucks (mostly 1½-ton) or jeeps to get about. The trucks and jeeps were armed with a .30-cal light machine gun and the troopers used similar personal weapons as the mechanised troops (seven M1s, five M3s and 12 pistols). The TO&E (Table of organization and equipment) also included some heavier weapons: three M18 57mm recoilless rifles and three M1 81mm mortars.[8]

Table 3: 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate)

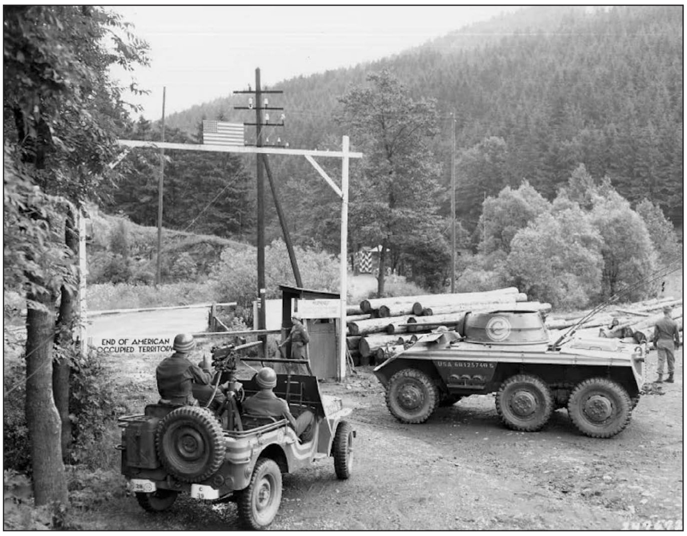
Wartime Designation	16th Constabulary Squadron Designation
16th Cavalry Group (Mech.) Headquarters	Headquarters and Headquarters Troop
78th Division Reconnaissance Troop	A Troop
310th Infantry Regiment Anti-Tank Company	B Troop
309th Infantry Regiment Anti-Tank Company	C Troop
310th Infantry Regiment Cannon Company	D Troop
A Company, 771st Tank Battalion	E Troop

Therefore, at the end of 1946, the US Constabulary consisted of 3 brigades, 9 regiments, 27 squadrons, 135 troops, 810 platoons and headquarters, service, and miscellaneous units.

Constabulary patrols would also act as customs agents, passport control officers and traffic cops. In late 1946, with the expansion of the national German border police, the *Bundesgrenzshutz*, and state border police in Hesse and Bavaria, the Constabulary were able to hand over much of their border policing role to concentrate on law enforcement, with responsibility for the eastern international borders being passed over in March 1947 and the interzonal borders in November 1947.

The plans called for an elite force, but it proved to be a challenge to recruit soldiers

Members of the Motorcycle Platoon, 3rd Constabulary Regiment, set off on a patrol near Wetzlar, Germany. In addition to a horse platoon, each Constabulary regiment included a motorcycle platoon with 25 motorcycles. (US National Archives)

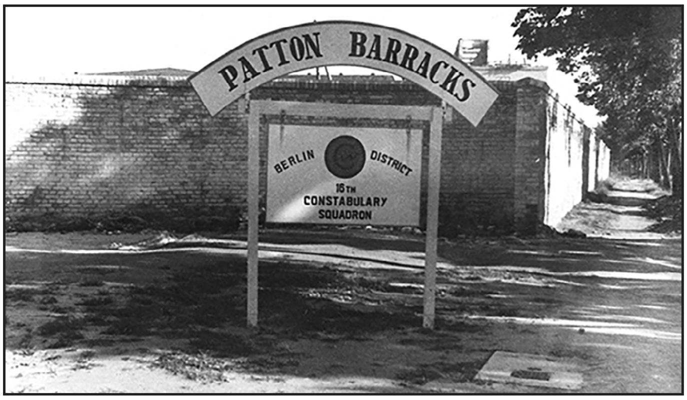


A border post near Hof, in northern Bavaria, manned by troopers of the 28th Constabulary Squadron, 1946. The Constabulary manned static border posts like this or undertook mobile patrols in vehicles or on horseback. This border post is defended by an M8 Greyhound armoured car and a Jeep armed with a .30-cal machine gun. The chequered hut in the background is the Soviet guard hut across the border in the Soviet Zone. (US National Archives via usconstabulary.org)

of the necessary calibre from a shrinking recruitment pool, which was constantly churning as troops were rotated back to the US. The situation improved after the establishment of a dedicated training school, the Constabulary 'West Point' at Sonthofen. Interestingly, they only taught basic German language phrases as part of the syllabus, relying on German policemen to communicate with the civilian population – a decision that would have contributed to alienation rather than integration. They also were forced to inherit equipment left behind by units that had returned home, and much of it was worn out or had deteriorated through lack of use. Lacking a major servicing facility, the Constabulary struggled to get enough vehicles serviceable. By mid-1947, personnel shortages were so bad that the Constabulary had to consolidate, removing one troop per squadron from the structure (11 in total out of 32). They also eliminated all the 'motorized' troops and squadrons were reorganised around four 'mechanized' troops plus a headquarters and headquarters troop.

Meanwhile in Berlin, at the end of October 1945 the 1st Berlin District Constabulary Squadron (Provisional) had been established as a civil policing force (as opposed to a combat force), made up from remnants of the 16th Cavalry Division, the 78th Infantry Division, the 309th and 310th Infantry Regiments. These soldiers kept their unit assignments but took on the role of District Constables, painted a yellow DC on their helmets and wore yellow scarves around their necks. In March 1946, as the US Constabulary was being formed over in West Germany, this provisional unit transitioned into the Berlin District Composite Constabulary Squadron (Provisional). The gestation was completed on 1 May 1946 when this composite unit became the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate), notionally part of the 4th Constabulary Regiment based in Linz, Austria, but reporting to the Berlin Military District under General Clay – hence the 'Separate' tag. However, they wore the same uniform and were structured in a similar way to the US Constabulary units in West Germany: a Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC); and five troops, A to E, which were made up from the units shown in Table 3.

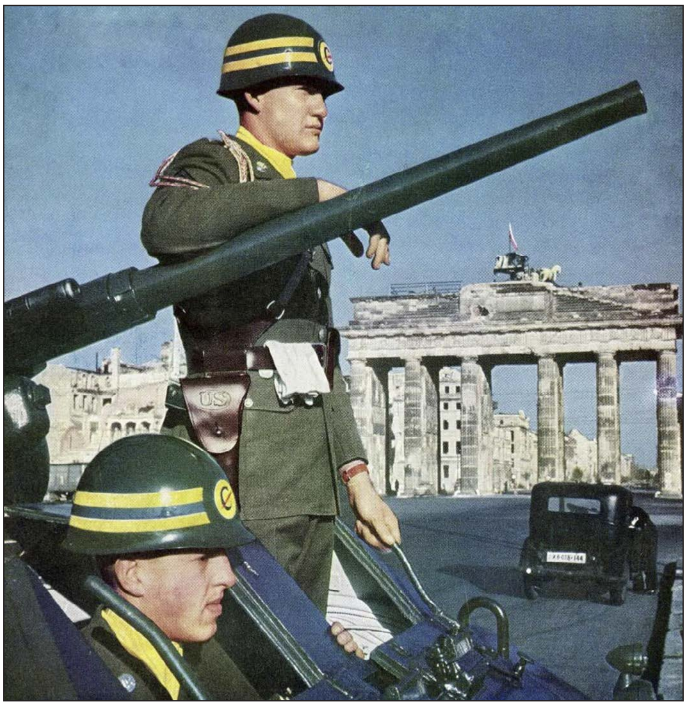
The squadron's job was as follows:



The sign outside Patton Barracks, West Berlin, before it was renamed Oliver Barracks. (Walter Elkins, usarmygermany.com)

16TH CONSTABULARY SQUADRON
OLIVER BARRACKS

Oliver Barracks in Lankwitz, Berlin, home to the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate). (Walter Elkins, usarmygermany.com)



Troopers of the 16th Constabulary Squadron in their M8 Greyhound armoured car by the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, March 1947. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

1. Patrol all main streets of the American Sector thereby representing the strength of the US occupation force
2. Patrol daily the autobahn between Berlin and Helmstedt [maintain access rights]
3. Support the new Berlin (civilian) Police Force
4. Support special missions (border control, refugee control and contraband searches)

USA 6032886 S

An M8 Greyhound armoured car of the 16th Constabulary Squadron leaves Oliver Barracks in Berlin to go on patrol, March 1947. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

5. Organise and equip a paramilitary German civilian guard for the static security of US Installations
6. Maintain a 15-minute alert force to respond to emergencies in Berlin[9]

The 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) took over a former *Luftwaffe* barracks site between Gallwitzallee, Eiswaldtstraße and Malteser Straße in Lankwitz, a sub-district of Steglitz in Berlin. It was initially named Patton Barracks after General George S. Patton (the famous American General and mentor to Major General Harmon) but after a short time the name was changed to Oliver Barracks once it was discovered that a US Army base in West Germany had already been named after Patton.

One of their tasks was manning a small 'Outpost' on the autobahn road link between Helmstedt in West Germany (Checkpoint ALFA) and West Berlin (Checkpoint BAKER – later BRAVO), which travelled 110 miles or so across East Germany.[10] On the edge of a small village called Nahmitz, 27 miles along the highway from Berlin, the 16th Constabulary Squadron operated an aid or 'service' station for Allied motorists travelling along the road corridor. The small 30 x 50-yard (27 x 46m) compound was surrounded by barbed wire and personnel were rotated in and out every two weeks. Apart from reacting to any medical emergencies or mechanical breakdowns, Troopers would have little to do during the two long weeks of their duty as they could not leave the compound. The 16th also carried out 'Highway Courtesy Patrols', notionally to look for any stranded drivers, but mostly to affirm the Allies' transit rights along the access corridor.[11] The British manned a similar outpost near the town of Burg, 40 miles east of Helmstedt (with Nahmitz being a further 40 miles along).

All of this ended in June 1948 when the Soviets closed the road access to West Berlin (and the railway and waterways) beginning the Berlin Blockade. The patrols resumed in May 1949, when maintaining access rights became a strategic goal of the Western Allies, but Soviet pressure led to them being discontinued in the early 1950s – travellers had to fend for themselves as an altogether more sinister regime descended over the access corridor. MPs recorded the vehicle registration number and departure time, and their colleagues at the other end checked them off as they arrived – if anyone was overdue, a search party was sent out. Military personnel had an elaborate set of orders on how to conduct themselves en route (when to salute and when *not* to salute, for example) and instructions on how to flag down fellow military personnel in case of a breakdown or emergency.

A little later than their colleagues in West Germany, the 16th Constabulary were reorganised in February 1948 to just four troops and the Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), Troop E ceased to be. During the 12 months of the Berlin Airlift, the squadron provided security for the unloading and distribution operation at Tempelhof Airport, a commitment of 312 enlisted men and 12 officers, relieved every 48 hours. This caused major disruption to their normal duties, so they were assisted by men from the 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment and the 759th MP Battalion.[12] There were many aircraft accidents during the airlift, and if the aircraft crashed in the American Sector, the 16th Constabulary and 759th MP Battalion would be tasked with securing the site and making the initial investigations. Aircraft that crashed in the Soviet Zone would be handled by the Allied Military Liaison Missions (AMLMs), who would visit the site as soon as they could, negotiate the release of any survivors, the repatriation of any bodies and return of the wreckage. Normally, the East Germans and/or Soviets had thoroughly investigated the crash site before the AMLMs got there.

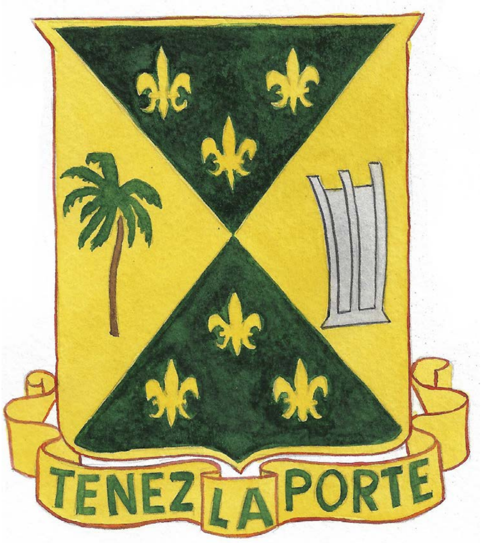
The 16th Constabulary were also some of the first guards for the war crimes prisoners at Spandau Prison, rotating with British, French, and Soviet detachments. This duty subsequently was transferred to the main garrison. The commanding officers of the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) in West Berlin from 1946–1950 were as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Commanding Officers of the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) in West Berlin from 1946–1950[13]

Commanding Officers 16th Constabulary Squadron	Dates
Lieutenant Colonel Samuel McClure Goodwin	1946 to 1947
Lieutenant Colonel George C. Benjamin	1947
Lieutenant Colonel Robert C. Works	1947 to 1949
Colonel Robert A. Willard[14]	1949 to 1950
Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Y. Talbot	1950

The US Constabulary may have been fit for purpose when it was formed, but almost as soon as it had come into being, the emergence of the Cold War began to demand a different type of occupation force, one that was orientated to *defending* Germany, rather than *policing* it. The Berlin Blockade and Airlift of 1948–49 was a watershed moment when it became clear that Stalin was going to be a real threat to peace in Europe, and the Army began consolidating the US Constabulary regiments into Armoured Cavalry Regiments (ACRs) with an emphasis on combat. During 1950, the US Constabulary units in West Germany were folded into the 7th Army, the headquarters being deactivated in November 1950. Two squadrons, the 15th at Weiden and the 24th at Bad Hersfeld remained until December 1952, but the US Constabulary experiment had gone full circle – from a combat role, to policing, and back to combat, all within a four (or six if the 15th and 24th are included) year period. They also contributed to West German civil society at a key moment, leading by example and moulding the emerging law enforcement agencies of the Federal Republic into effective organisations, protecting the new democratic state. The Constabulary was also deeply involved with the German Youth Assistance (GYA) programme, set up by the Military Government to teach democratic principles to the traumatised young generation who had survived the war. They organised scout groups, social events, hikes, sports activities, discussion groups and trips, including exchange trips to the United States, an unsung contribution to German recovery.

The changes were also felt in Berlin – in February 1949, the 16th Constabulary Squadron in West Berlin was relieved from assignment to the 4th Constabulary Regiment, which was itself deactivated soon after, while the 16th soldiered on until 10 November 1950, when they too were deactivated in a ceremony at McNair Barracks. The unit was officially dissolved on 27 November 1950 at Grafenwöhr in West Germany, with personnel moving to the 759th MP Battalion or to the newly reactivated 6th Infantry Regiment, which would form the core of a new look West Berlin garrison. The infantry component of the Berlin Brigade will be explored in a later volume in this mini-series.



Distinctive Unit Insignia of the 759th Military Police Battalion, US Army, a green and yellow shield, the colours associated with the Military Police. The unit's Second World War service in the European Theater is symbolised by the fleurs-de-lis and in North Africa by the palm tree, while the Airlift Monument, represents the 759th's participation in the Berlin Airlift. (Renato Dalmaso)

US Military Policing in West Berlin

The first American military police to reach Berlin were the MP platoon attached to the 2nd Armored Division, plus an advance party of the 713th Military Police Battalion, who arrived at Babelsberg on the outskirts of the city on 3 July 1945 having encountered the same Soviet obstructions as the main 2nd Armored force. The 713th were tasked with the initial policing of the American Sector of Berlin and for providing security for the Potsdam Conference which was due to start later that month at Schloss Cecilienhof, so while some headed into the city to participate in the handover parade at what would become McNair Barracks, the rest began preparing for the conference, protecting the US President (at the 'Little White House') and other dignitaries, and providing area security.

In early August, with the conference complete, the 713th moved into the city on general law enforcement and security duties as follows:

- Enforcing the law-and-order statutes of OMGUS, in effect, imposing the will of the Allies on the Germans

An MP from the 713th MP BN checks the identity of a US Army captain and his passengers as they enter the US compound for the Potsdam Conference, Berlin, 14 July 1945. (US Army Signal Corps, Harry S. Truman Library, US National Archives)

YOU ARE LEAVI
THE AMERICAN SE
ВЫ ВЫЕЗЖАЕТЕ
АМЕРИКАНСКОЙ З
VOUS SORTEZ
SECTEUR AMER

MPs from the 713th MP BN at the sector boundary with the Russian Sector near Potsdamer Platz, Berlin, Summer 1945. (US Army Signal Corps, Harry S. Truman Library, US National Archives)

MILITARY POLICE
POLICE

MPs from the 759th MP BN form up ahead of a ceremonial event at OMGUS headquarters, Summer 1950. (Walter Elkins, usarmygermany.com)

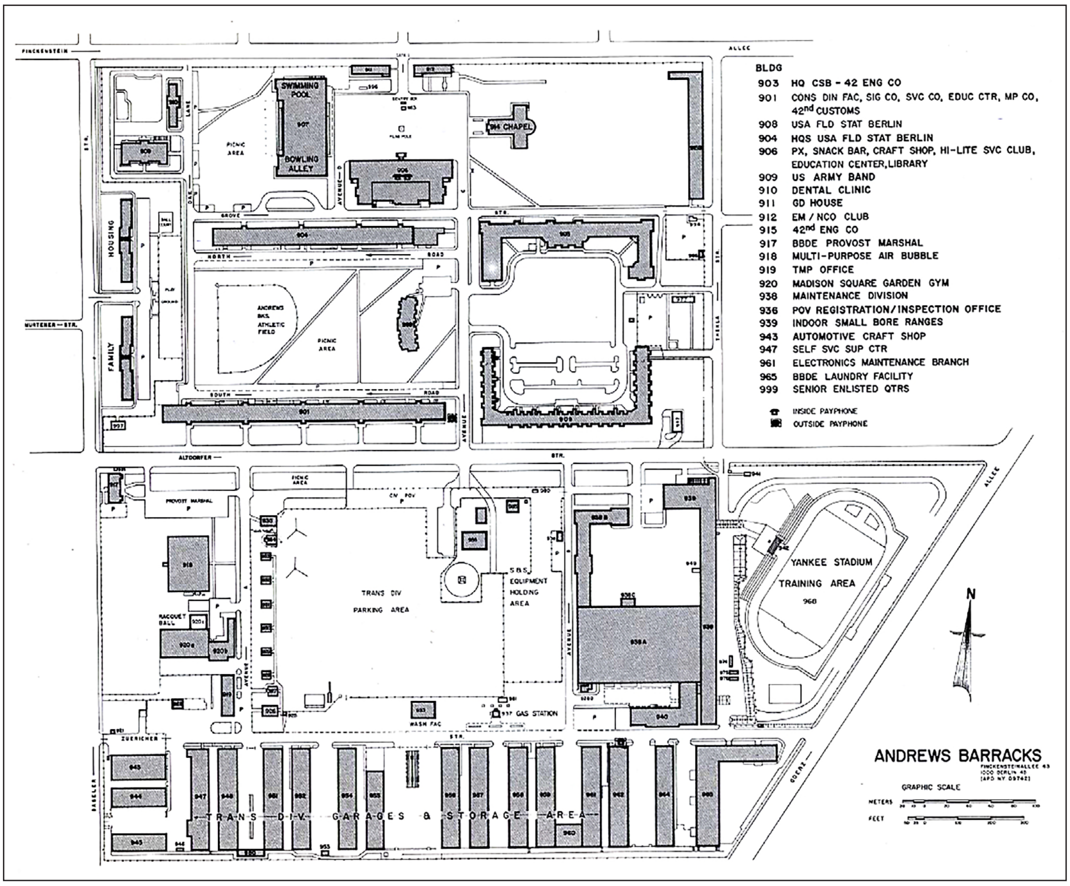
- Enforce curfews
- Post occupation proclamations, establishing the new military administration
- Secure and protect US and Allied property
- Arrest Nazi officials and war criminals, and commence the denazification process
- Conduct patrols on foot and in vehicles (including the British and French sectors initially)
- Escort convoys and dignitaries

The early patrols encountered Soviet troops still billeted in the American Sector (it would not be until mid-August before they had all been ushered back to their own sector) and the new city-wide civilian police force, which had been established by German communists (Walter Ulbricht et al with his communist police chief, Paul Markgraf), which would cause lots of problems for the Western Allies. In October 1945, in the first of many reorganisations within the American occupying forces, the 713th MP Battalion were replaced by the 759th MP Battalion.

The 759th Military Police Battalion had seen service in North Africa, Italy, France, and Germany before being assigned to West Berlin in October 1945. Their brief expanded on that of the 713th to include investigative services and ceremonial duties. Their motto was '*The Law East of the Elbe*', a sentiment that was adopted by all subsequent MP units serving in West Berlin. They were joined by troopers from the 1st Berlin District Constabulary Squadron (Provisional), which would eventually become the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate), the 296th Military Police Company, and the 822nd Military Police Company, which was assigned security duties at the OMGUS compound on Kronprinzallee (later Clayallee) in Dahlem (later became HQ Berlin Brigade), effectively as 'palace guards.' They wore their Class A Dress uniforms, with white Sam Browne belts, white helmet liners and trousers bloused into their boots.[15]

In a cost-saving measure, on 20 January 1947, the 822nd were deactivated and its soldiers were folded into the 759th MP Battalion or the 16th Constabulary Squadron, which took over 'palace guard' duties. The 759th also provided security at the Allied checkpoints at either end of the road corridor: Checkpoint ALFA at Helmstedt on the West German/East German border and Hamelin Bridge Checkpoint (later known as Checkpoint BAKER and then BRAVO once the US adopted the standard NATO phonetic alphabet) where East Germany met West Berlin.[16] They would also undertake 'Highway Courtesy Patrols' in high visibility white patrol cars. This task would be continued by the 16th Constabulary Squadron until the Berlin Blockade interrupted things.

The home for the various American military police and security units throughout the US Army's time in Berlin was at Andrews Barracks. Located in a block to the south of Finckensteinallee in the Lichterfelde district, Andrews Barracks was originally constructed in 1873–1874 as the Imperial *Hauptkadettenanstalt*, the main military academy of the German Empire. Following the First World War, the Treaty of Versailles required the closing of all military academies within the German Empire and the *Hauptkadettenanstalt* closed in March 1920, being taken over by the *Staatliche Bildungsanstalt* (State Institute for Education), the *Hans Richter Oberschule* and several police units. In 1934, with the rise of the Nazis, the buildings reverted to their original use and became home to the *SS Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler*, Hitler's elite personal bodyguard, and were extensively modernised. Despite being badly damaged during the war, it was occupied



BLDG	
903	HQ CSB - 42 ENG CO
901	CONS DIN FAC, SIG CO, SVC CO, EDUC CTR, MP CO, 42nd CUSTOMS
908	USA FLD STAT BERLIN
904	HQS USA FLD STAT BERLIN
906	PX, SNACK BAR, CRAFT SHOP, HI-LITE SVC CLUB, EDUCATION CENTER, LIBRARY
909	US ARMY BAND
910	DENTAL CLINIC
911	GD HOUSE
912	EM / NCO CLUB
915	42nd ENG CO
917	BBDE PROVOST MARSHAL
918	MULTI-PURPOSE AIR BUBBLE
919	TMP OFFICE
920	MADISON SQUARE GARDEN GYM
938	MAINTENANCE DIVISION
936	POV REGISTRATION/INSPECTION OFFICE
939	INDOOR SMALL BORE RANGES
943	AUTOMOTIVE CRAFT SHOP
947	SELF SVC SUP CTR
961	ELECTRONICS MAINTENANCE BRANCH
965	BBDE LAUNDRY FACILITY
999	SENIOR ENLISTED QTRS
☎	INSIDE PAYPHONE
☎	OUTSIDE PAYPHONE

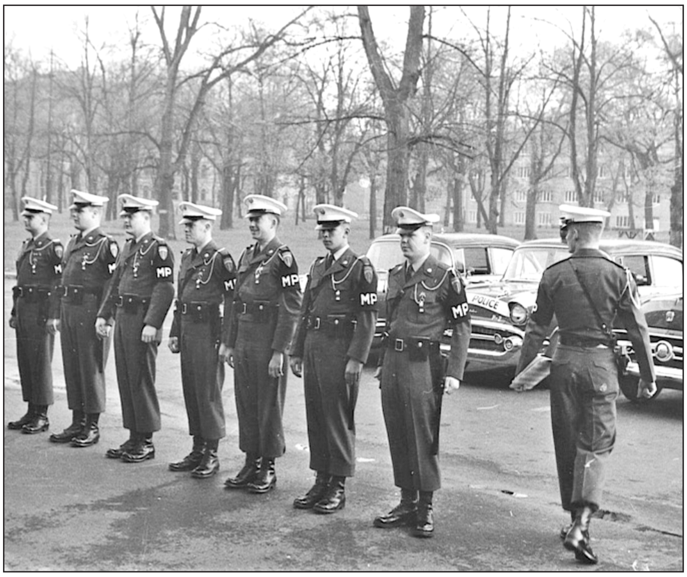
Map of Andrews Barracks. (Lutz Griesbach, guardbattalion.de) by Soviet troops as they took the city, before being handed over to US troops in July 1945. The barracks had all the usual facilities: barrack accommodation; married quarters; leisure facilities; parade grounds; sports fields; a sports venue called the Yankee Stadium; and an Olympic-sized swimming pool that was started for the 1936 Olympics but not completed until 1937–1938. A satellite radio signalling station was added in 1974.

As well as the Military Police, Andrews Barracks was home to other units of the Berlin Command. These included: various maintenance units: the 298th Army Band; the 42nd Engineer Company; and the 43rd Chemical Detachment, who specialised in countering the effects of chemical warfare. For a short period during the 1958–1961 Berlin Crises when additional infantry brigades were being sent to the city, the civilian German 6941st Labor Service Center (Guard Battalion) moved from Roosevelt Barracks to Andrews. Andrews also was home to some of the intelligence and special forces units based in the city, including: the 280th Army Security Agency Company (who worked at Field Station Berlin on Teufelsberg, Devil's Mountain); Detachment A (the secretive special forces stay-behind unit, hidden under the banner of 7781st Army Unit); the USAISC (United States Army Information Systems Command), who managed the Berlin Command's computer systems; and 766th Military Intelligence Det, 66th Military Intelligence Group, who handled counterintelligence and other intelligence roles. After the Americans left in 1994, the Andrews Barracks site was used by the German Federal Archives, for a hotel, and for housing.

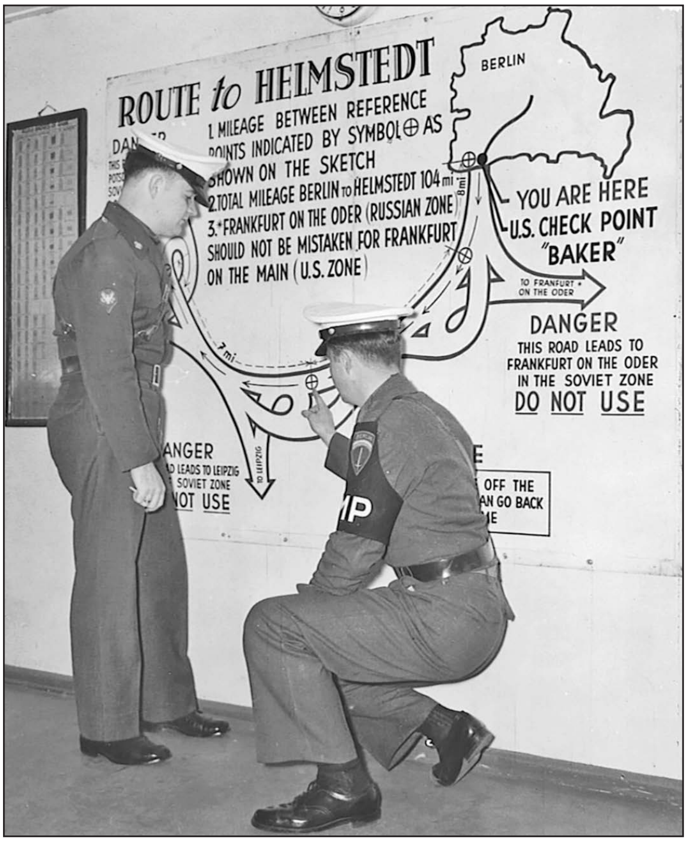
Early in 1946, the Allies began the difficult task of establishing a civilian police force in West Berlin against Soviet objections. They Americans began the practice of including German police officers with military police patrols – this helped with the language barrier, but also showed them Western democratic police practices, which helped counter the influence of the Soviet led city police and years of authoritarian rule under the Nazis. This practice would continue until the US left Berlin.

During the eight years the 759th served in West Berlin, they went through various reorganisations in line with changes going on across USAREUR:

September 1947: Becomes 759th MP Service Battalion
October 1947: Assigned to OMGUS
August 1949: Assigned the 18th and 513th MP Service Platoons to form a new company, E Company, with the tasking of protecting the Berlin Military Post headquarters compound
March to June 1950: Temporarily replaced in Berlin by 526th MP Company, C Company, 382nd MP Battalion and 511th MP Platoon so the 759th could undergo refresher training in West Germany
June 1949: The first Criminal Investigative Detachment (CID) was created in the city, although in March 1950, this was transferred to the Provost Marshall's Office, where it remained
November 1950: Redesignated the 759th MP Battalion (absorbing the 18th and 513th MP Service Platoons)
November 1950: Absorbed the 16th Constabulary Squadron Horse Platoon following the dissolution of the US Constabulary
December 1950: Absorbed some of the remnants of the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate)
April 1952: Sector MP Station established on Baseler Straße (at Andrews Barracks), which included the Berlin Provost Marshall's office and the West Berlin Police liaison office (R-197 Station)
December 1952: Assigned to the newly formed Berlin Command

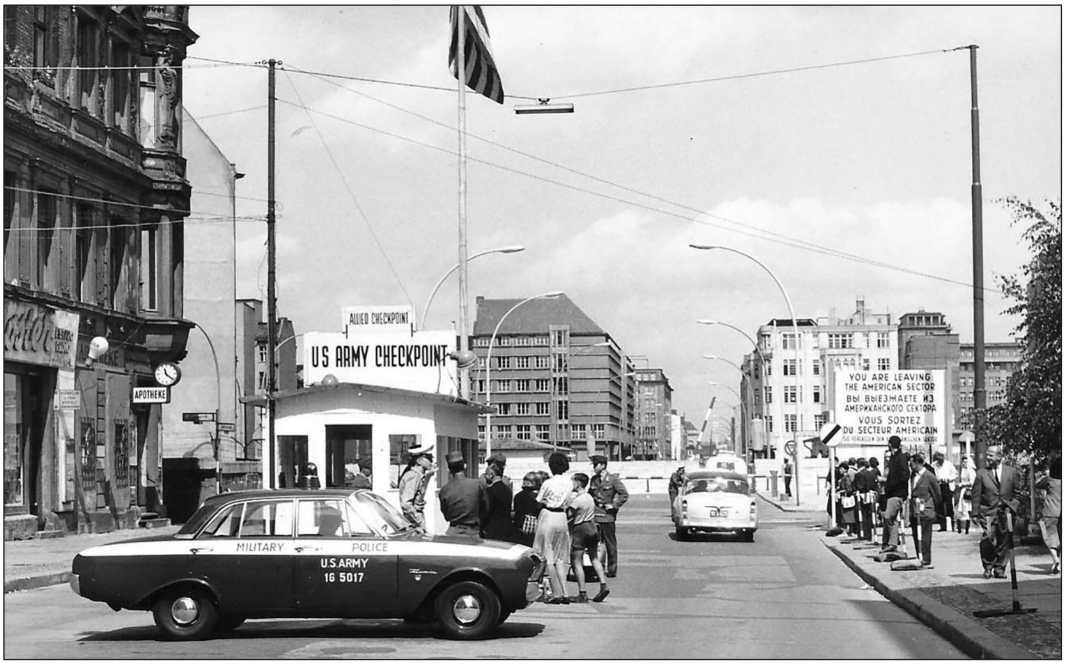


MPs from the 272nd MP Company undergo inspection prior to their shift, West Berlin 1957. Note the white caps, sharply pressed trousers 'bloused' into their boots, leather Sam Browne belts, white lanyards, and MP brassards with the Berlin Brigade patch. (Albert Grandolini Collection)


ROUTE to HELMSTEDT
1. MILEAGE BETWEEN REFERENCE POINTS INDICATED BY SYMBOL ⊕ AS SHOWN ON THE SKETCH
2. TOTAL MILEAGE BERLIN to HELMSTEDT 104 mi
3.* FRANKFURT ON THE ODER (RUSSIAN ZONE) SHOULD NOT BE MISTAKEN FOR FRANKFURT ON THE MAIN (U.S. ZONE)
BERLIN
YOU ARE HERE
U.S. CHECK POINT "BAKER"
TO FRANKFURT ON THE ODER
DANGER
THIS ROAD LEADS TO FRANKFURT ON THE ODER IN THE SOVIET ZONE
DO NOT USE
ANGER
LEADS TO LEIPZIG
SOVIET ZONE
NOT USE
TO LEIPZIG
7 mi
MP

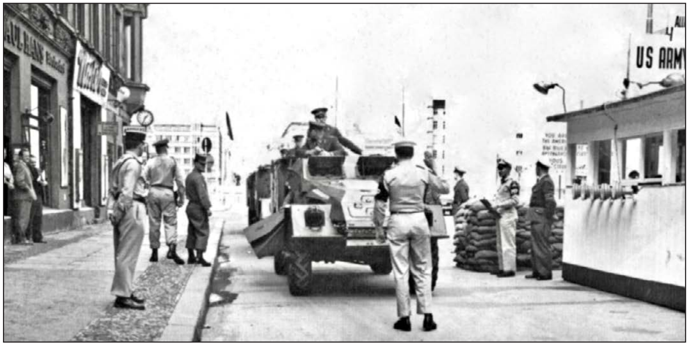
MPs from the 272nd MP Company inspect the instruction panel at Checkpoint BAKER (BRAVO) at Dreilinden/Drewitz on the outskirts of West Berlin, 1957. Note the MP brassard with the Berlin Brigade patch, Sam Browne belts and the distinctive white cap covers. Also note the emphasis given to the autobahn exit to Frankfurt an der Oder in the Soviet Zone *not* being the same as Frankfurt am Main in the US Zone. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

During the Berlin Airlift (June 1948 until September 1949, although the Soviet blockade was lifted in May 1949), the 759th MP Battalion/ MP Service Battalion were at the centre of activities, controlling border crossing points, guarding previously unguarded facilities, protecting the command post at Tempelhof and the numerous supply depots that sprung up, as well as escorting supply convoys to the distribution points in the city centre. They worked alongside the 16th Constabulary Squadron on these duties.


MPs from the 287th MP Company provide security at the Allied control hut, Checkpoint CHARLIE, Berlin, 1962. Note the MP sedan parked next to the hut. The East Germans have erected concrete barriers on their side of the checkpoint. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

The 296th Military Police Company was another MP unit that served in Berlin from 1946 to 1947, where they guarded the Berlin Command confinement facility (the brig, stockade, or jail). Inmates were a mix of civilians, DPs, POWs, and Allied servicemen. In November 1946, the facility was transferred to OMGUS and became exclusively for Allied personnel, however, in January 1947 it was decided to consolidate all Allied prisoners in Mannheim and the Berlin stockade became just a temporary holding facility, with responsibility passed to the 759th MP Battalion. The 296th MP Company was duly deactivated.[17]

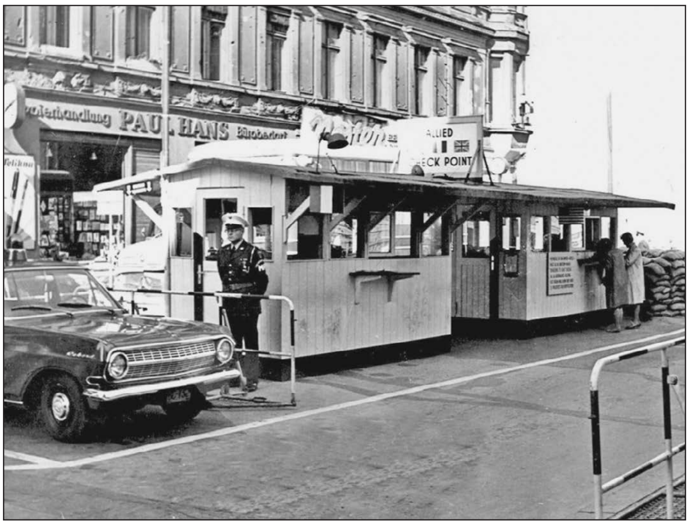
During October/November 1953, with continued pressure on manpower, the 759th MP Battalion was split into two companies, the 272nd and the 287th Military Police Companies, both of which were stationed at Andrews Barracks. In addition to their usual police functions, the 272nd and the 287th continued providing security at Allied Checkpoints ALFA (Helmstedt) on a rotating three-day detail. They also manned Checkpoint BRAVO (Drewitz) on the outskirts of West Berlin. From 1959, there was a dedicated Helmstedt Support Detachment as part of the Special Troops Headquarters. In late 1954, the 272nd and the 287th also provided personnel for boat patrols on the Havel River and nearby Wannsee Lake, keeping a close eye on Allied personnel enjoying the leisure facilities adjoining the water, but also on the sensitive border area down by Potsdam. Operations were suspended during winter months when the lake froze over. In 1954, both units provided security at the Allied Control Authority building for the 'Big Four' foreign ministers' conference which ran from 25 January to 18 February 1954. Troopers had to undergo 50 hours of training in VIP close protection and in addition to securing the venue, they had to act as tour guides for numerous politicians and diplomats.[18]


A rather poor-quality image of MPs from the 385th MP Battalion holding up a Soviet BTR-40 armoured personnel carrier at the head of the Soviet War Memorial guard convoy to inspect identity documents, Checkpoint CHARLIE, Berlin, August 1962. Note the French officer – in kepi – on the left. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

The 272nd would serve in West Berlin until 1 June 1958, when it was deactivated, and the 287th became the sole remaining US MP unit in the city right through to the end of the Cold War.[19] Because of the unusual situation in West Berlin, the unit was designated a 'Separate' unit, recognising that it reported through the Berlin Brigade chain of command rather than the Military Police Corps.[20]

Checkpoint CHARLIE

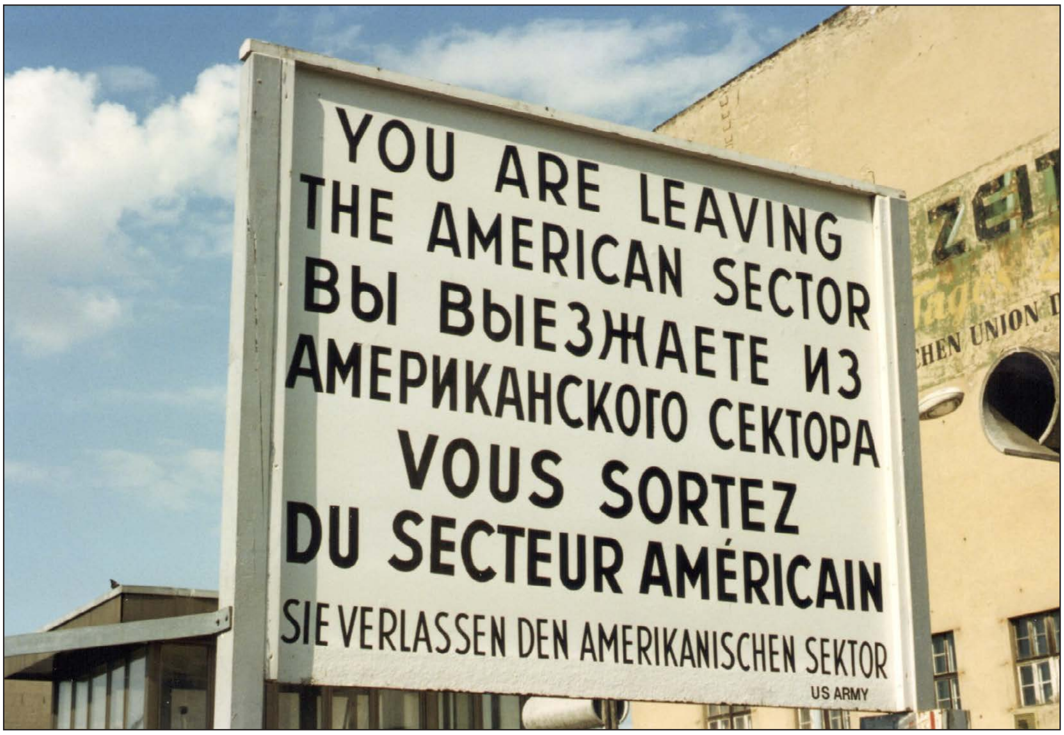
With the construction of the Berlin Wall in August 1961, the 287th faced a new challenge, and began manning the checkpoint on Friedrichstraße in the city centre on an around-the-clock basis. On 1 September, the Berlin Command requisitioned space at 207 Friedrichstraße as an MP station and when a base radio set was


MPs from the 287th MP Company provide security at the Allied control hut, Checkpoint CHARLIE, Berlin, 1963. The photo is taken from the MP office on the right-hand side of Friedrichstraße. East Berlin is on the right of the shot. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

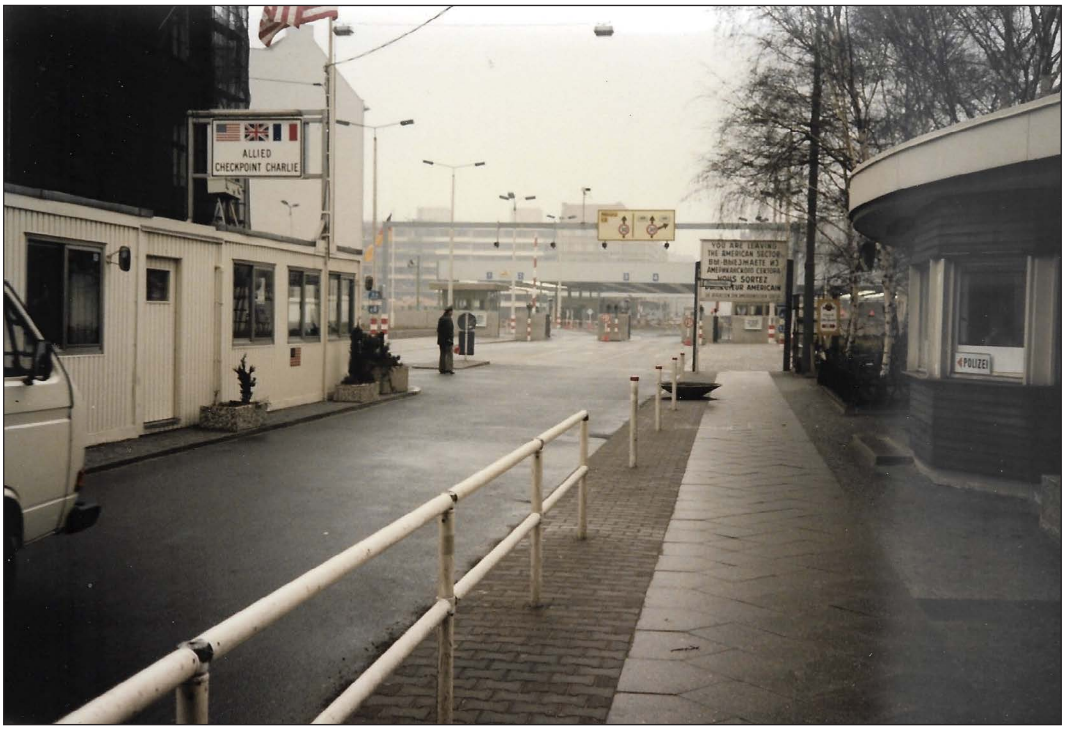
installed, it was given the callsign CHARLIE as the next in line after ALFA and BRAVO. By mid-September, an Army semi-trailer had been placed in the centre of the road as a control point and Checkpoint CHARLIE was born. The MPs' duties included checking documents needed to enter East Berlin and preventing 'accidental' crossings. All Allied personnel making the crossing were briefed on how to behave while in the East to avoid any international incidents. MPs also provided escorts for senior travellers. An observation point was established in an apartment building on Zimmerstraße, opposite the Soviet side of the checkpoint. The 287th were right at the centre of the incident in October 1961 that brought US tanks facing off against Soviet tanks across the border at Checkpoint CHARLIE. During this time of heightened tension, the 287th were supplemented with a platoon from the 385th MP Battalion, temporarily assigned from West Germany.

After the tragic killing of Peter Fechter in August 1962 while trying to cross the Wall from East to West just along from Checkpoint CHARLIE, the MPs of the 287th MP Company faced a lot of criticism for not intervening, although there was nothing they could have done without prompting a serious cross-border incident. They had to contend with demonstrations and regular tear-gas exchanges with the *Vopos* (*Volkspolizei*, the East German 'People's Police') on the other side of the Wall. In response, they did, however, make life difficult for the daily Soviet Army column of vehicles going to relieve the guard at the Soviet War Memorial in Tiergarten, close to the Brandenburg Gate, in the British Sector. They insisted on inspecting every soldier's ID to check for a Soviet colonel who was Persona Non Grata (PNG) in the West. This charade (a tactic regularly used by the Soviets on Allied convoys) continued for a few days until the US banned the convoy from using Checkpoint CHARLIE, insisting they use one of the other vehicle checkpoints.

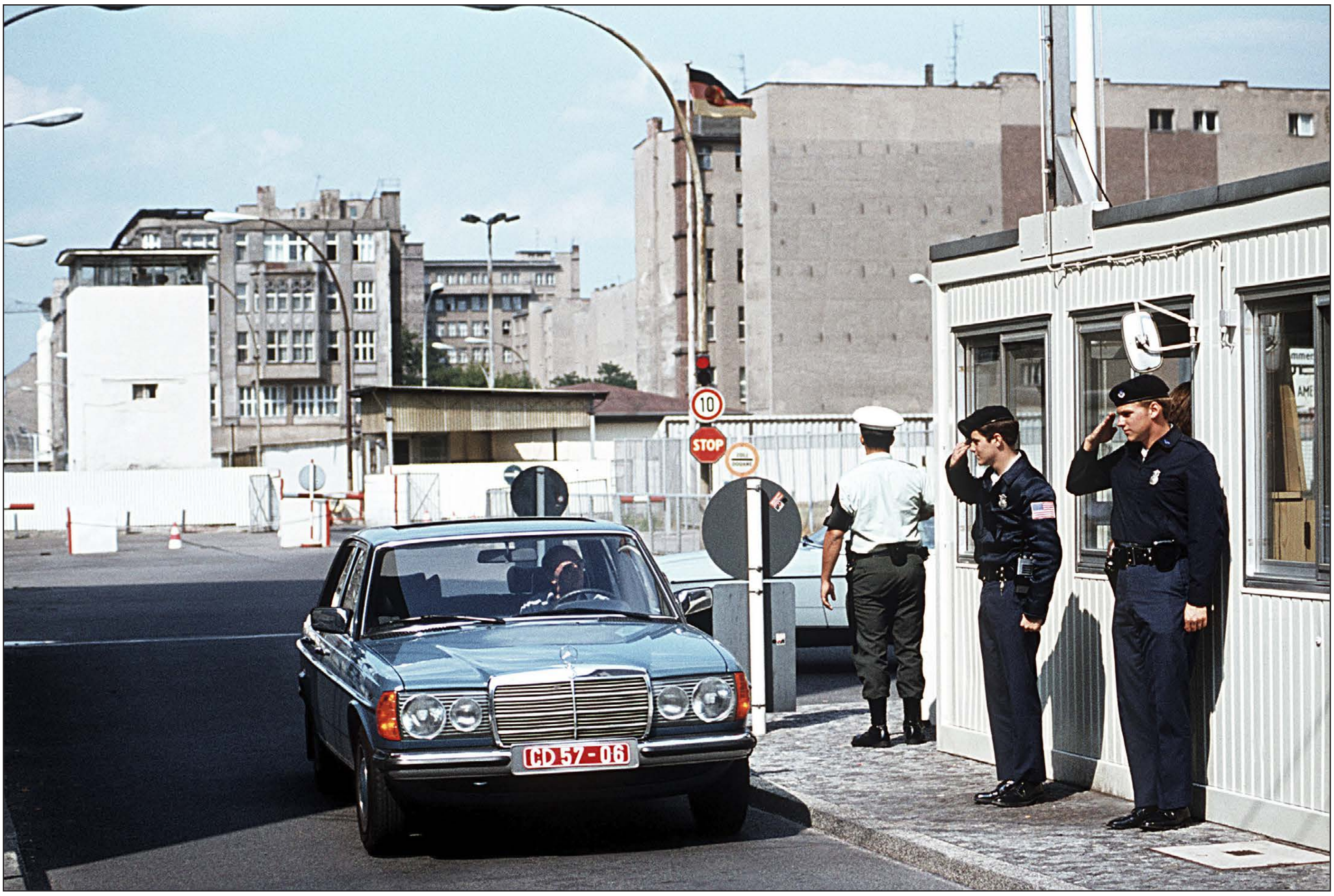
From the moment the Wall went up in 1961, professional escape organisers earned small fortunes by helping desperate East German citizens escape to the West, a practice known as 'exfiltration.' Some organisers helped for altruistic reasons, but others, often linked to organised crime, plied their trade in the shadows.[21] MPs working at Checkpoint CHARLIE were vulnerable to bribes from these groups as it helped having a source inside the control box, keeping the group informed of movements and possible diversions, while offering an official armed response if the escape went wrong. The MP commanders recognised the risks and strictly prohibited any involvement on pain of court-martial and substantial prison time, but some MPs were tempted. As well as the criminal aspects, the commanders were worried that the East Germans or Soviets would entrap MPs leaving them open to blackmail or to prompt restrictions in movement. Over the years, several officers were investigated for accepting money from escape organisers, although the details



The famous 'YOU ARE LEAVING …' sign next to the MPs' hut at Checkpoint CHARLIE. (Dan Hermann)



The American side of Checkpoint CHARLIE, 1986. (Author)



Guard duty was shared between the Army MPs and the USAF Security Police. Two USAF security policemen from the 7350th Air Base Group based at Tempelhof Airport salute a diplomatic vehicle at Checkpoint CHARLIE, 19 August 1982. (US National Archives)

The East German side of Checkpoint CHARLIE, 1 June 1983. (US National Archives)

remain classified. This underground activity should not be confused for any help the MPs provided to intelligence agencies to assist the movement of their agents back and forth across the Wall.

The Quadripartite Agreement that came into effect 3 June 1972 normalised movement through Checkpoint CHARLIE, as much as such an abnormal situation could be. Military traffic was no longer routinely stopped, civilian personnel could pass unhindered if they had the correct identification, and Berliners were allowed to visit relatives in the East and West (before this, only West Germans, not West Berliners could visit the East), albeit under very controlled circumstances. It may not have changed the role the MPs played, but it did reduce incidents.

Policing Challenges

Around the same time, events taking place 9,000km away had an unexpected impact on military policing in Berlin. The American participation in the Vietnam War was highly controversial and, during the late 1960s and early 1970s, US Army facilities in West Berlin were regularly targeted by anti-war and therefore anti-American protesters. Other groups also protested the continued Allied presence in the city so crowd control and riot training became a major preoccupation for the 287th. For a period in the late 1960s, the members of the 298th Army Band were given the secondary role

Zimmerstraße
Friedrichstraße
206-209
Zugang zu den Grundstücken Zimmerstraße 11-13 auch über Kochstraße 69 Zimmerstraße 19a auch über Kochstraße 65

The East German side of Checkpoint CHARLIE, 1 June 1983. (US National Archives)

The East German side of Checkpoint CHARLIE, late 1980s. (Dan Hermann)

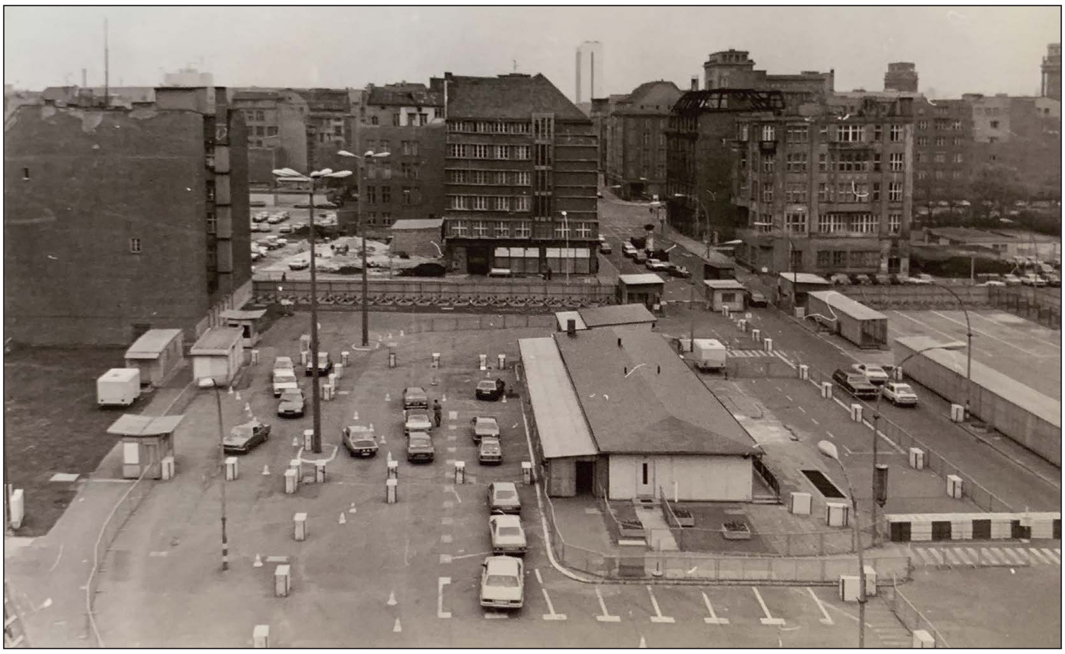
of barracks riot police, which was a rather strange choice not best suited to musicians and they were soon diverted to support the Base Hospital as medics. In later years the band's secondary returned to security, supporting the Tactical Operations Centre (TOC), and maintaining perimeter defence at Andrews.[22]

The 287th and the US Army in general also suffered from the scourge of drug use, especially from troops returning from tours in Vietnam. Not only did the MPs have to handle drug use within the US garrison, but also within their own ranks. The terrorist threat also became very real following the 1972 Munich Massacre and numerous hijackings, and terrorist groups such as the Red Army Faction/Baader-Meinhof Group made Berlin their base, with active support from the *Stasi*. The 287th had to prepare snipers, anti-snipers, hostage negotiators and have a quick reaction force on constant alert. Detachment A, the special forces unit based in West Berlin, also trained in the anti-terrorist role. When crimes were committed within the US military community, the Military Police Investigations (MPI) or Criminal Investigation Detachment (CID) investigated the incident and brought the perpetrators to military justice. These teams were kept outside the normal command structure to ensure their investigations were unbiased and unfettered.

Following the fall of the Berlin Wall, all access restrictions in and out of the Soviet sector had been lifted by March 1990, and Checkpoint CHARLIE operations ceased on 22 June 1990, ahead of reunification on 3 October 1990. In a ceremony attended by the three Allied commandants and politicians from the Allied powers, the iconic control hut was hoisted from the spot it had occupied in various forms since September 1961 and was moved to the Alliierten Museum on Clayallee, where it still resides. The Soviets closed their checkpoint at Marienborn (just across the border from Helmstedt) on 29 September 1990 although the Allies kept the Helmstedt checkpoint (Checkpoint ALFA) running until 24 April 1992, primarily to control a mass diaspora entering West Germany from Eastern Europe (which was the same logic behind the Berlin Wall, albeit for very different reasons). Checkpoint BRAVO closed on 3 October 1990 and both ALFA and BRAVO, as well as their East German counterparts, were eventually demolished or left to slowly crumble away. The 287th MP Company, which had served with distinction in West Berlin since 1953 (and back to 1945 with its predecessor, the 759th MP Battalion) was deactivated on 8 September 1994.

Other Policing Operations

Black market and smuggling activity were major issues from the very early days of the occupation where the single packet of American cigarettes was the de facto currency in Berlin. As early as September 1945, Eisenhower issued an explicit order forbidding all Allied soldiers from abusing their positions of relative privilege and participating in black market activity. However, in the summer of 1946, the Americans permitted 'barter marts' to operate in



View of the extensive East German border facilities at Checkpoint CHARLIE, 1980s. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

FRIEDEN für
VIETNAM

An anti-Vietnam War (and therefore anti-American) demonstration, West Berlin, 15 November 1969. The large police presence was not required, and the march passed peacefully on this occasion. (R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)

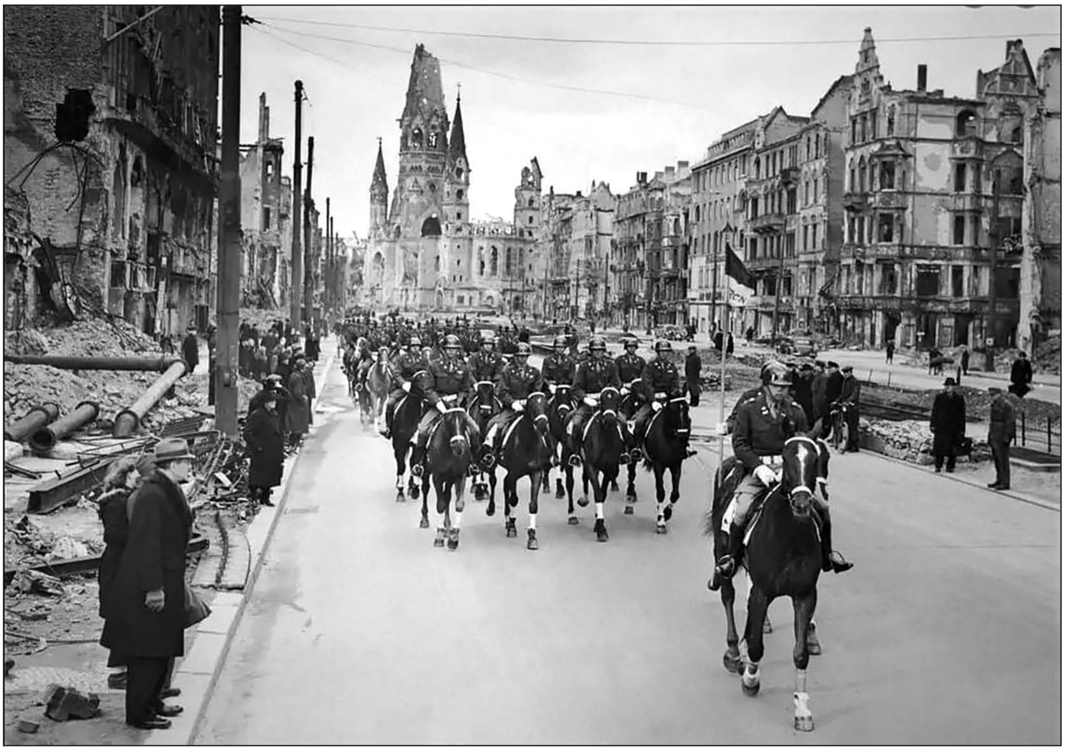
TAXI
POLIZEI

A West Berlin police officer redirects a Mercedes taxi away from the route of the march, 15 November 1969. (R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)

Frankfurt and Berlin, open air gatherings where Germans and Allied personnel could exchange goods. This rather naïve experiment to bring this trade out of the shadows proved to be very controversial, aiding currency speculation and promoting tax avoidance, effectively encouraging the black market activity they were trying to stop. Finally recognising the endless supply of cigarettes available to American soldiers was literally a licence to print money, the authorities introduced personal allowances in late 1946 but by the end of 1947, when that did not curb the activity, they banned the barter marts, pushing the trade back underground. A study in Berlin around that time found that US soldiers were sending home more money than the Berlin Brigade payroll was bringing in! In 1949, to try to control the smuggling and black market activity, the Army established a Berlin sub-unit of the Military Police Customs organisation that had developed in West Germany after the war. This was initially from the 7751st Military Police Customs Unit (MPCU), which then changed to just the Military Police Customs Unit in 1952, then the US Army Military Police Customs Unit in 1957. By then, their role developed into tax and tariff duty enforcement, drug enforcement and control of goods and agricultural products in and out of the city. In 1964, the customs role in Berlin was taken over by a field office of the 42nd Military Police Customs Unit (the parent unit was based in Bremerhaven), coordinating with MP colleagues from the 287th MP Company. The 42nd was upgraded to a group in 1968. In 1985, they were joined by the 560th Military Police Company, both of which served right up to 1994. The fight against the black market in the city was never going to be easy with a transient military population, large differentials in incomes and massive stockpiles of materiel, and remained an issue right until the Americans left Berlin in 1994. During a conflict, these customs cops had a war role of handling enemy prisoners of war.

Horse Platoon

One of the more colourful aspects of the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) in West Berlin was their horse platoon.[23] Other



Troopers of the 78th Cavalry Reconnaissance platoon parade on Tauentzienstrasse in West Berlin, 1946. They became the horse platoon of the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) in January 1946. Tauentzienstrasse was intersected by the sector border between the US and British Sector. The famous Gedächtniskirche can be seen in the background. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

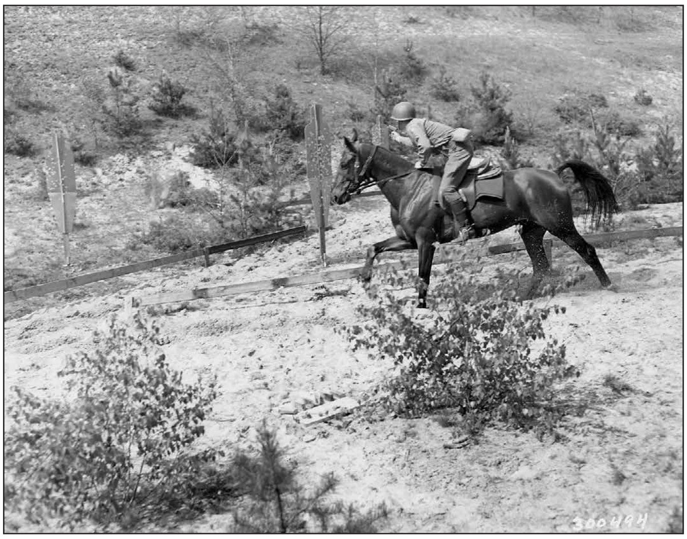
constabulary squadrons in West Germany used horses, especially for patrolling the more inaccessible border regions, but the 16th (and their successor units) established and maintained a platoon of horses and riders in the city from 1945 to 1958. It was created in October 1945 with soldiers with prior experience of working with horses from the 78th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, 78th Infantry Division at Hofgeismer in the US Zone of Germany and about 30 horses from a Hungarian cavalry unit captured by US forces at Mecklenburg, Germany. The last cavalry field manual (FM, a list of operational procedures) detailing how to operate horses in a military setting was issued in 1936, under wholly different circumstances, so the officers had to start from scratch, creating a new set of rules for this most unusual unit. They requestioned a former *SS* stable block on Königsweg in Düppel, a sub-district of Zehlendorf and converted it into accommodation and stables.

In January 1946, the platoon was integrated into the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) and originally were used to patrol the border of the American Sector of West Berlin, to respond to civil disturbances, and participate in official ceremonial duty missions ('Honor' Guards etc). Mounted troopers were armed with .45-cal semi-automatic pistols, M1 Garand rifles or carbines (carried in a sheath/scabbard attached to the saddle), M3 fighting knives (in a M8 scabbard – they were not issued a bayonet) and machetes.

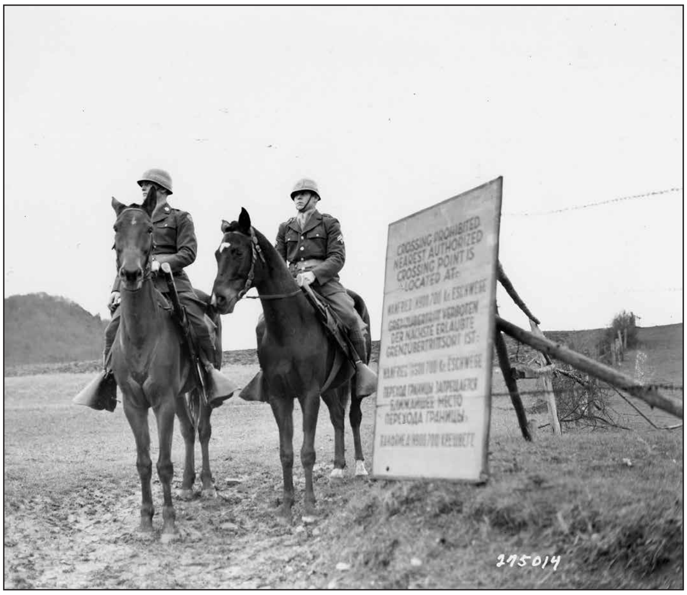
On 24 November 1950, along with the rest of the US Constabulary, the Horse Platoon was deactivated, and all personnel, horses and equipment were transferred to the 759th Military Police Battalion, which took over the law enforcement and security mission in West Berlin. The platoon strength was authorised at one officer (a lieutenant), four NCOs (non-commissioned officers), around 37 soldiers and about 60 horses, all volunteers and pulled from Military Police units across Germany. In October 1953 the 759th MP Battalion was deactivated, and the Horse Platoon was transferred intact to the 287th Military Police Company – the sign above the gate at Düppel read 'Horse Platoon Barracks, 287th Military Police Company, The only horse mounted police in the US Army.' They created their own

OTTO BOENICKE

As shoppers stroll by, West Berlin riot police wait in the wings should the demonstration turn violent. The ready platoon from the 287th at Andrews Barracks was also on alert, but thankfully the march passed peacefully on 15 November 1969. Ironically, a civilian work party chose the day of the demonstration to mend a section of the boundary fence at the barracks, which would have allowed demonstrators into the supposedly secure location. Despite having a section of fence open for most of the day, no additional security was provided but thankfully the mob did not become aware of this great opportunity. (R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)



A trooper from the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) Horse Platoon practicing firing at targets from the saddle in Grunewald, West Berlin c.1946, demonstrating where they got the 'Circle C Cowboys' nickname from. (Sam Cox, militaryhorse.org)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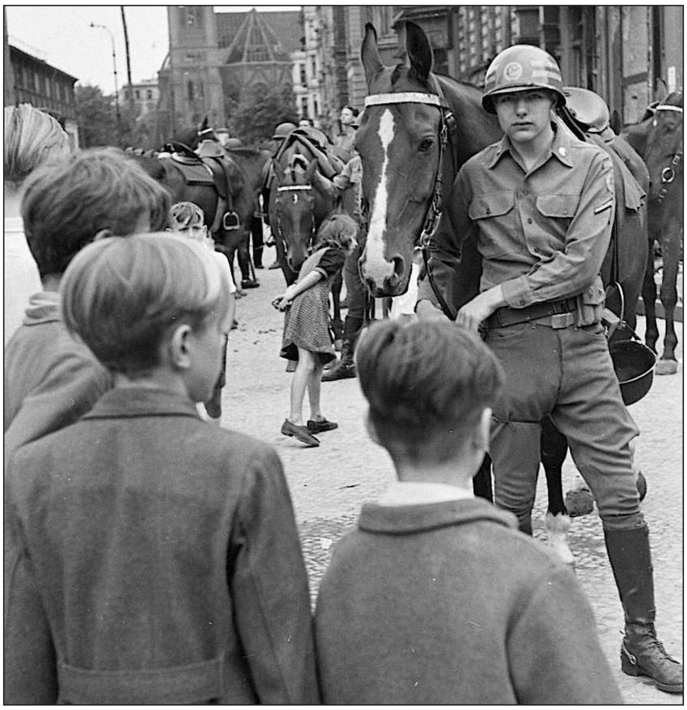
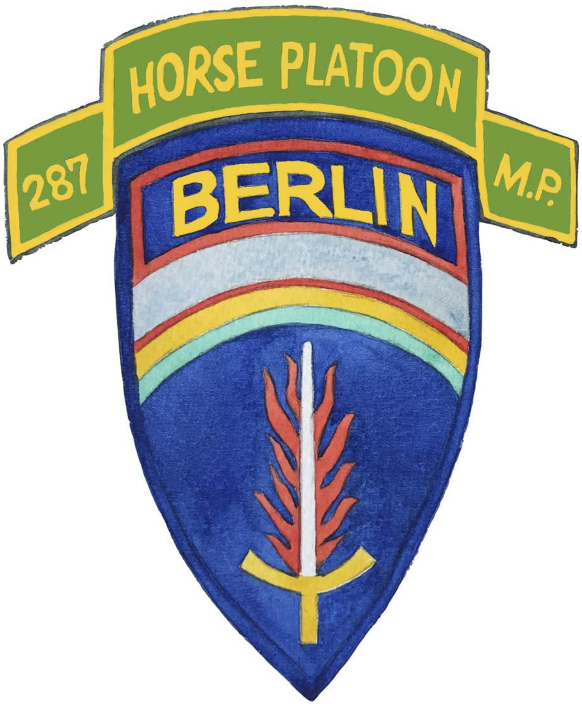
A 3rd Constabulary horse platoon mounted patrol near the Soviet Zone border at Wanfried/Eschwege in Hesse, December 1946. Note the distinctive helmet liner (which would not have given much protection in a fall), the (yellow) scarf worn round their neck and the M1 rifle or carbine in a sheath/scabbard attached to the left-hand side of the saddle. They had a holstered .45-cal semi-automatic pistol on the right-hand side of their webbing belts (some wore it on the left to draw the weapon across their body). Apart from ceremonial duties, riders tended to use the more practical webbing belts. (US National Archives via Sam Cox, militaryhorse.org)



A dismounted US Constabulary Trooper in shirt-sleeve order, Berlin, 1948. Note the cavalry style breeches and boots, the Circle C shoulder patch with the 16th Constabulary Squadron scroll, distinctive helmet liner, webbing belt and ammunition pouch for his .45-cal semi-automatic pistol. The pistol's holster is tied around his right thigh to avoid flapping around on the move. (Sam Cox, militaryhorse.org)

unofficial DUI, a scrolling crest saying 287 Horse Platoon MP which fitted over the standard Berlin Brigade shoulder patch.

On top of their patrols and ceremonial duties, the Horse Platoon put on many horse shows, races and skills tournaments which became very popular with Berliners and were a welcome alternative to the rows of soldiers and military hardware in the various military


HORSE PLATOON
287
M.P.
BERLIN

Unofficial 287th Horse Platoon scroll over Berlin Brigade shoulder patch. It was common for units within the Berlin Brigade (and USAREUR) to add unit specific scrolls over the official shield patch, although these were not officially approved by the US Army. (Renato Dalmaso)

MILITARY POLICE
DETACHMENT
STEINSTÜCKEN

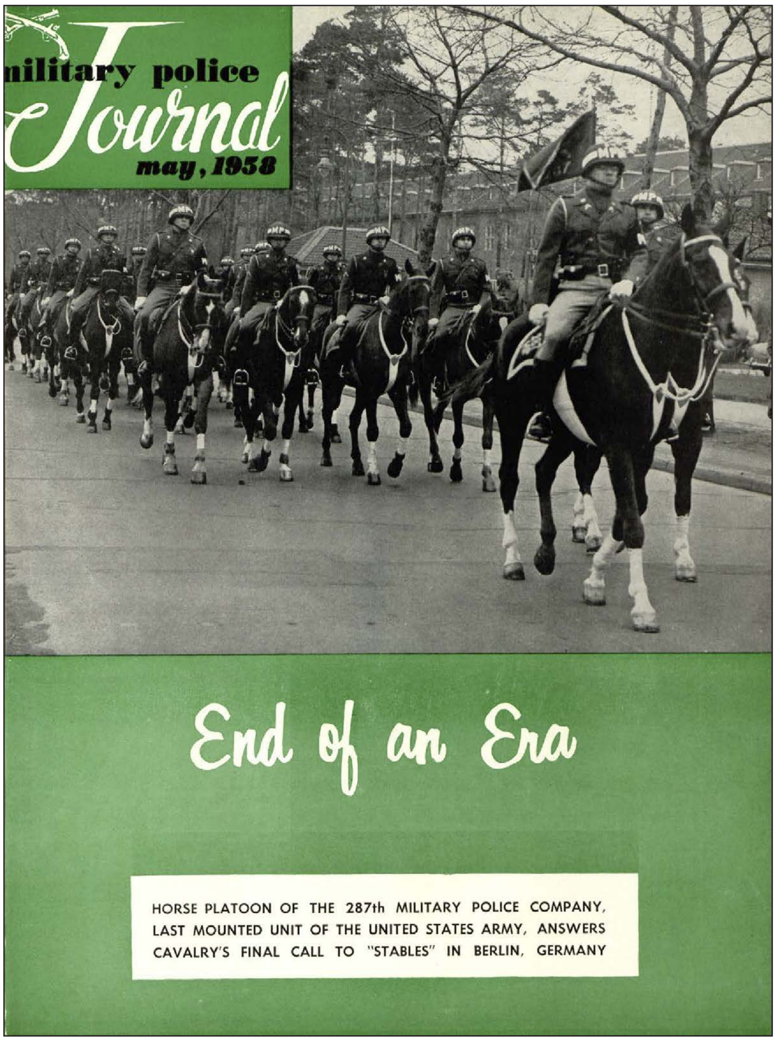
The sign outside the 287th MP Steinstücken detachment station house, 20 April 1972. (Henri Funck, Wikimedia Commons)

ECK POINT
BRAVO
YOU ARE LEAVING THE AMERICAN SECTOR
SIE VERLASSEN DEN AMERIKANISCHEN SEKTOR
Zum Ortsteil Steinstücken

A West Berlin policeman on duty at the checkpoint at the end of the access road to the Steinstücken exclave, mid-1960s. (US Army)

An Honor guard from the 287th Military Police Company Horse Platoon, Berlin is reviewed by the US Secretary of Commerce in 1955. (Robert Wuhrman via Walter Elkins, usarmygermany.com)

parades such as 4th July and Armed Forces Day. By the late 1950s, the horse had become largely redundant in the policing role, and a cost that was hard to justify in the modern army, and on 31 March 1958, the unit was deactivated as part of the Pentomic reorganisation. The former barracks/stables are now the Veterinary School of the Berlin Free University.



military police Journal may, 1958

End of an Era

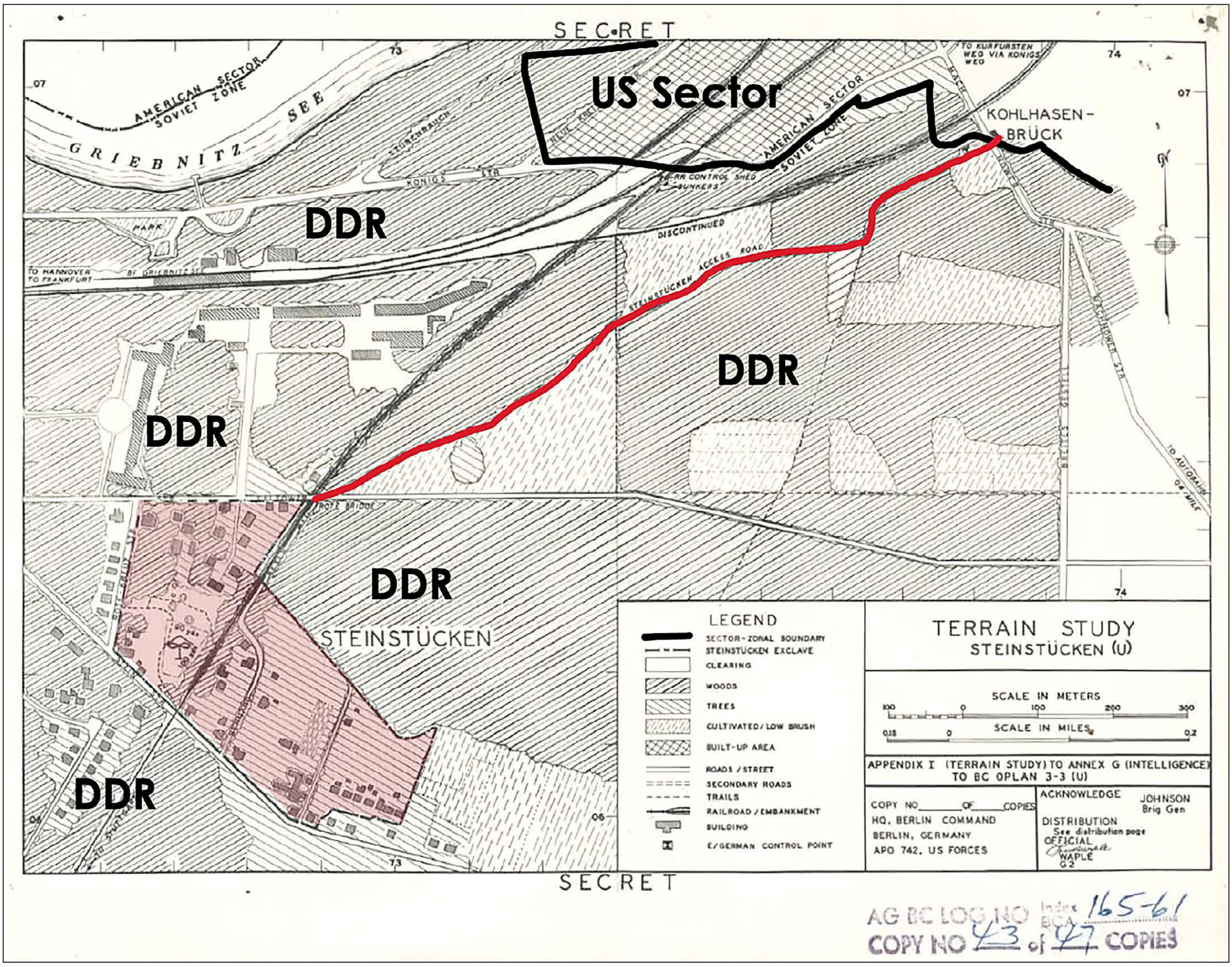
HORSE PLATOON OF THE 287th MILITARY POLICE COMPANY, LAST MOUNTED UNIT OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, ANSWERS CAVALRY'S FINAL CALL TO "STABLES" IN BERLIN, GERMANY

The 287th Military Police Company Horse Platoon deactivation parade, 31 March 1958, Military Police Journal May 1958. (Bruce C. Clarke Library Digital Repository, Ike Skelton Combined Arms Research Library Digital Library, Fort Leavenworth, KS, USA)

A Sikorsky H-19 'Chickasaw' helicopter from the Berlin Brigade Aviation Detachment departs after dropping supplies for the 287th MP Steinstücken detachment. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

Steinstücken

The small hamlet of Steinstücken lies in the southwest corner of Berlin between the Potsdam suburb of Babelsberg and the Düppler Forest. By a quirk of a bureaucrat's pencil, during the formation of Greater Berlin in 1920, it became part of the Berlin district of Zehlendorf, despite not actually being in, or attached to, Zehlendorf. The settlement only covered about 30 acres (12 hectares) and had around 30 houses and a population of about 150 people. The Wannsee-Drewitz railway line also ran through the hamlet, although there was no stop there.[24] After the Second World War, Steinstücken became part of the American Sector of Berlin, despite being outside its physical boundaries, but was surrounded by the Soviet Zone, which in 1949 became the DDR. The East Germans did not like this situation and in October 1951, ringed the settlement with barbed wire. High-level intervention from the Americans made the East Germans back down, and they allowed residents to travel along an 18m wide, 1km long dirt track, connecting them to West Berlin and their friends, families, work, schools, and shops. In May 1952, the East Germans closed the Inner German Border between East and West Germany, which also included the outer perimeter of West Berlin, that is, where West Berlin borders the DDR. The residents of Steinstücken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STEINSTÜCKEN
KOHLHASEN-BRÜCK
GRIEBNITZ SEE
AMERICAN SECTOR
SOVIET ZONE
KONIGS STR
PARK
TO HANNOVER
TO FRANKFURT
DISCONTINUED
STEINSTÜCKEN ACCESS ROAD
TO KURFURSTEN WEG VIA KONIGS WEG
TO AUTOBAHN
73
74
07
06
LEGEND
SECTOR-ZONAL BOUNDARY
STEINSTÜCKEN EXCLAVE
CLEARING
WOODS
TREES
CULTIVATED/LOW BRUSH
BUILT-UP AREA
ROADS/STREET
SECONDARY ROADS
TRAILS
RAILROAD/EMBANKMENT
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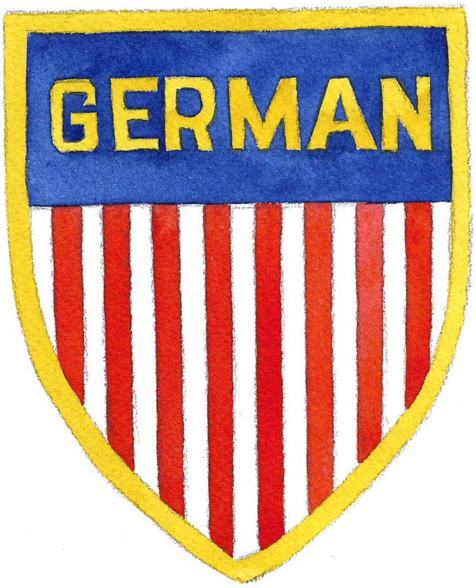
Annotated map showing the Steinstücken exclave from an annex to Berlin Command Operations Plan for STEINSTÜCKEN (BC-OPLAN 3-3), April 1961. (Author and US National Archives)

now had to pass through what was effectively an international border and a full-blown East German checkpoint every time they went to work or the shops. Visitors were therefore rare, put off by the attention of the East German guards and the requirement to present a residence permit stating that you lived in Steinstücken. At the other end of the track was small barrier manned by a West Berlin policeman, the usual 'You are leaving …' signs, and a small bicycle shed watched over by the policeman where Steinstücken residents could leave their bicycles and catch the bus into the city.

When the Wall went up in August 1961, a few dozen East Germans, including around 20 border guards, used the relatively lax security around the village to jump across the wire to freedom in the West, albeit as prisoners inside this tiny enclave. The 70 or so refugees were helicoptered to real freedom in the city a few days later. The East German authorities quickly plugged this hole in their border by building a wall around the whole settlement, with watch towers and tank traps, and patrolled 24/7 by a team of 200 border troops. On 21 September 1961, General Lucius D. Clay, who had been despatched to the city on a goodwill mission by US President John F. Kennedy just after the Wall went up and remained as Kennedy's eyes and ears in the city, made a high-profile visit to the beleaguered West Berlin enclave. Arriving by helicopter and surrounded by armed MPs and a few select journalists, Clay swaggered around the tiny hamlet, making it be known to all and sundry that the US would not forget this tiny island of democracy, surrounded by a sea of communism, a parallel to the status of the whole of West Berlin. To deter any mischief from the East Germans, he set up a permanent military police post in the village manned by three MPs from the 287th MP Company, who were rotated in and out by helicopter every few days. A mini heliport was set up at Andrews Barracks for this very purpose and the detachment lived in a rather pleasant house in the middle of the hamlet, with MPs welcomed into this tiny community.

Although Clay's rank and reputation gave him a fair amount of latitude, his unusual intervention at Steinstücken upset a lot of people further up the chain of command within the Berlin Brigade. He fell out spectacularly with General Bruce C. Clarke, Commander-in-Chief of (USAREUR), the body that the Berlin Brigade reported to, who instructed his subordinates to take no further orders from Clay. He then stormed into Clay's office and pointing to the red telephone on his desk, challenged him to call President Kennedy, or to 'take his cotton-picking fingers off my troops.' Clay responded that he could see that he and Clarke were not going to get along.[25] Although Clay's opinion counted for a lot in Washington D.C., he overstepped the mark when he began offering unsolicited advice to the White House and State Department, threatening to resign if he did not get his own way. The final straw for Kennedy was when Clay almost provoked World War III through his hawkish actions during



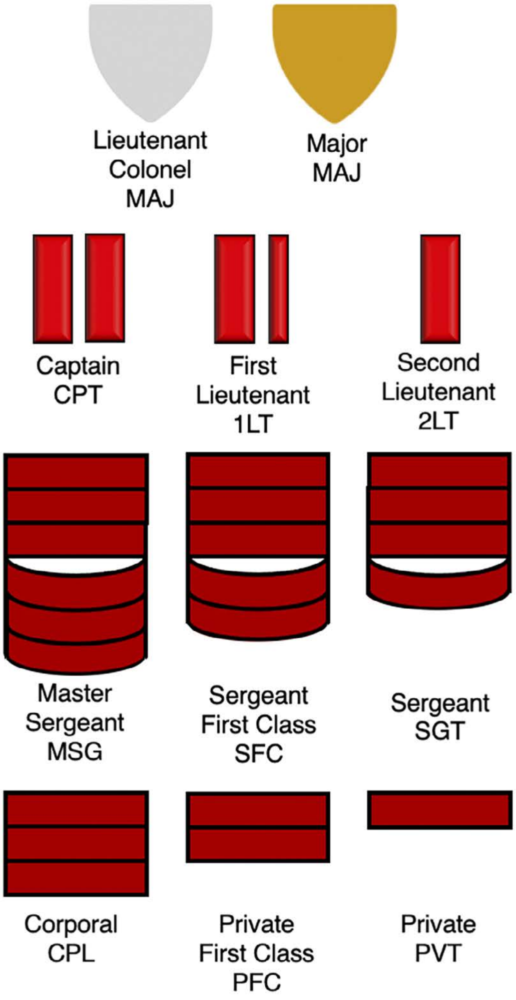
Insignia patch of the US Civilian Support Group/Center as worn by troopers of the 6901st Labor Service Area/Center and later by the 6941st Guard Battalion. The 6901st and 6941st were responsible for guarding US military and government installations in West Berlin and supporting the military and civilian police in policing large events, for public order duties, and at times of increased threat level. The unit was entirely civilian, but wore US Army uniform and carried US Army weapons, however, they were able to interact with the local population better than US personnel. (Renato Dalmaso)

the Checkpoint CHARLIE incident in October 1961, and he was recalled to Washington and sent back into retirement.

The most serious confrontation in Steinstücken came in 1963 when East German border guards threw stones at the MP patrol, who retaliated with tear-gas grenades, the weapon of choice in most disputes along the Berlin Wall. The population of the enclave actually grew in the years following the construction of the Wall and by 1967 it had swelled to 180, one third of which were pensioners, and the hamlet had around 40 children living behind the wire. The Four-Power Agreement of 3 September 1971 helped tidy up a lot of the inconsistencies that had resulted from the construction of the Wall and a solution was finally found for Steinstücken.[26] The long strip of East Germany territory connecting the hamlet to West Berlin was gifted to the West Berlin *Senat* in exchange for equivalent territory belonging to West Berlin, allowing a two-carriageway road to be built. The new access road, which was still separated from East Germany by walls and fences, was opened on 30 August 1972, allowing free movement of West Berlin citizens to and from the enclave and a bus route connecting Steinstücken with the West Berlin suburb of Kohlhasenbrück and on into the city. The MP detachment remained until 1989.

Civilians

Following the creation of NATO in 1949, strict rules were laid down between member states which governed how their troops could operate when stationed in another member's country.[27] The Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) governed US, British and French forces stationed in West Germany confirming the legal rights and obligations while living and working within the jurisdiction of another sovereign state.[28] West Berlin, however, operated under a different set of parameters because the Allied powers were occupation forces, rather than 'visiting' NATO partners and so they were able to make up their own rules, which included the hiring of local staff.



Guard Battalion Rank Insignia. (Author)

During the Berlin Airlift, Berliners, and DPs were employed to unload aircraft and move the huge amounts of supplies that were flown into the beleaguered city. They were organised into Labor Service Companies (such as the 4060th Labor Service Company (Lithuanian)), which reduced the burden on Allied manpower. They were also employed to guard the precious supplies from black marketeers, armed only with clubs or pickaxe handles.

As the Cold War battle lines were drawn and the Allied powers came to realise that they would have to maintain standing armies in Germany to counter the Soviet threat, and rather than tie up expensive troops in support roles, they expanded on their use of civilian employees, many of which would have been former combatants from a variety of different nations, happy to have paid work and regular meals. The occupying forces in western Germany created an infrastructure to manage the recruitment and deployment of these civilian support workers: the Civilian Support Organization (CSO) in the US Zone and the German Civil Labor Organization (GCLO) in the British Zone.[29]

The situation in West Berlin was uniquely challenging for the Western Allies, maintaining a sizeable garrison while being effectively surrounded by Soviet troops. Military installations are normally guarded by military personnel, but with manpower at a premium, the Allied forces in Berlin created special civilian paramilitary units to guard the numerous sites within the city, allowing trained troops to concentrate on defending the city. These guard units could also communicate more easily with the local population, avoiding dangerous misunderstandings.

In September 1950, just a year after the end of the airlift, the Americans consolidated the various 'Civilian Guards' and 'Industrial Police' militia units into the 6901st Labor Service Area, which became the 6941st Labor Service Center in 1952. In 1969 it became the 6941st Guard Battalion (Labor Service) or 6941st Gd Bn (LS), with the (LS) being dropped in the early 1980s.[30] The British created a similar unit, 248 German Security Unit Royal – Military Police.

The battalion's complement grew to around 850, divided into five companies, consisting of four platoons (*Zügen*):

4012th Gd Co
4014th Gd Co
4077th Gd Co
4078th Gd Co
HHC Headquarters and Headquarters Company (*Stabskompanie*)

Despite being a civilian organisation, ranks broadly followed US military structures (PFC, CPL, SGT, MSG, SGM, 2LT, 1LT, CPT, MAJ, LTC) and because of their unique paramilitary status in Berlin, salutes were given and received with other uniformed personnel, and military forms of address were typically used.

Within the Guard Battalion itself, the chain of command was as follows:

Senior command:

(1) Commander, 6941st Guard Battalion
(2) Executive officer, 6941st Guard Battalion
(3) S-3 officer, 6941st Guard Battalion

Tactical command:

(1) Commanding officer of the respective guard company
(2) Executive officer of the respective guard company
(3) Guard battalion duty officer (OD)
(4) Officer of the guard (OG)
(5) Sergeant of the guard (SOG)

The battalion's chain of command within the US Berlin command structure was as follows:

Senior command:

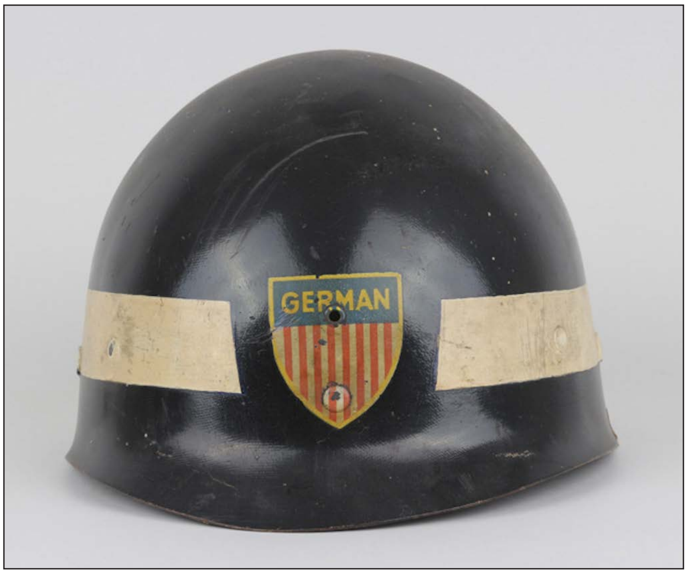
(1) US Commander, Berlin, and Commander, US Army Berlin
(2) Commander, Berlin Brigade
(3) Chief of Staff USCOB/USAB
(4) Deputy Brigade Commander USAB
(5) Provost Marshal USAB
(6) Chief, Physical Security Branch, USAB

Tactical command:

(1) MP Duty Officer Office of the Provost Marshal
(2) Staff Duty Officer, US Army Berlin
(3) Duty officer of the respective guard area

Berlin's unique status as occupiers allowed these guard battalions to be armed and organised along military lines, while their West German counterparts were exclusively civilian and unarmed – militarisation was carefully controlled in the FRG (created in May 1949), with the new state not getting their own armed forces (the *Bundeswehr*) until November 1955, having joined NATO earlier that year.[31] Guards had the power of arrest and search for a number of specific scenarios:

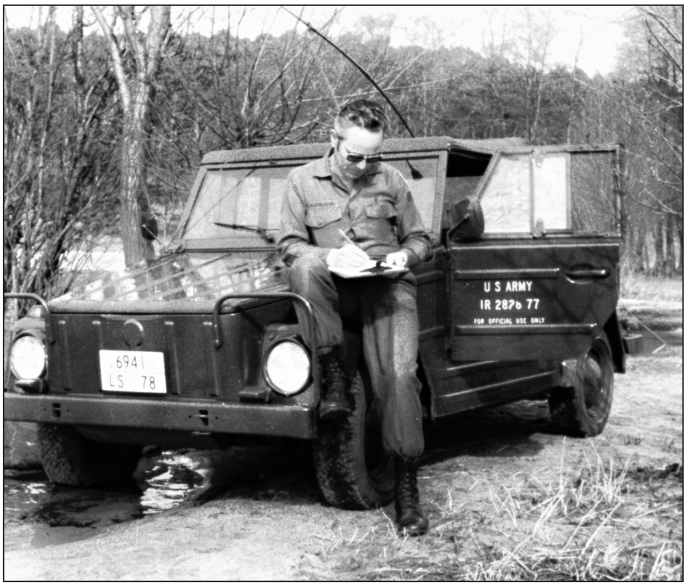
a. Attempt or execute a crime (this is clearly a 'catch-all' provision)
b. Theft



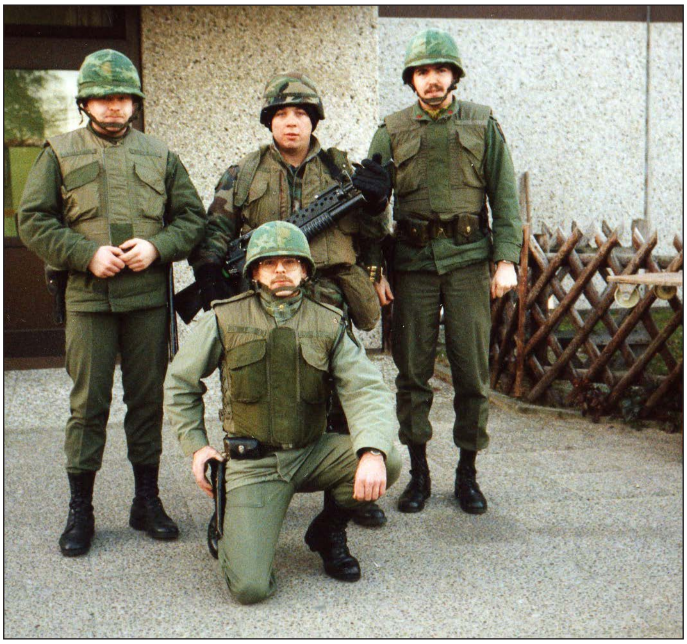
A 6941st Guard Battalion Helmet Liner. (Private Collection)

SFC Kaufmann of the 6941st Guard Battalion and colleague on patrol in a M151 MUTT Jeep. Note the clipped down radio aerial and Kaufmann's shoulder patch and rank insignia. Apart from the special insignia, the average West Berlin civilian would struggle to tell these civilian guards apart from actual US MPs. (SFC Kaufmann via Lutz Griesbach, guardbattalion.de)

An M151 'MUTT' of the 6941st Guard Battalion in action. The 6941st used the same training facilities as the Allied garrisons, including the Grunewald. (SFC Kaufmann via Lutz Griesbach, guardbattalion.de)



SFC Kaufmann sitting on the wing of his Volkswagen 181. The 181 was developed for the West German Bundeswehr in 1969 using technology from the Second World War-vintage Type 82 Kübelwagen and remained in production until 1979 with 15,200 military specification vehicles being produced. The vehicle was powered by a four-cylinder VW Beetle engine (initially 1,500cc but increased to 1600cc mid production run) and was only available in two-wheel drive with a manual four-speed gearbox. The model was also used by various West German government agencies such as the Bundesgrenzschutz (border guard), postal service, forestry department, and emergency services throughout West Germany, and by Allied military forces stationed in 'The Zone' (West Germany). However, to make it commercially viable, VW were allowed to sell the vehicle commercially and a civilian spin-off was developed. While the British Army used German-made vehicles in West Berlin (such as the DKW Munga), the US garrison preferred the familiarity of US-made models (the M151 MUTT etc), but the German Guard Battalion were able to use 'locally' made vehicles, albeit in US colours. Note the lack of a VW badge on the front – these were deleted on the military version of the 181 – and the lack of a radiator grille at the front, as the engine was at the back like the iconic Beetle. (SFC Kaufmann via Lutz Griesbach, guardbattalion.de)



Members of the 6941st Guard Battalion guarding the Truman Plaza shopping centre in West Berlin, 1 April 1987. (Dingeldie via Wikimedia Commons)

c. Damage or misuse of guarded US property
d. Refusing to comply with an order
e. Refusing (or unable) to produce the necessary identity documents

Once detained, the suspect would be handed over to the Military Police.

The guards companies within the 6941st Gd Bn (LS) were organised and equipped as light infantry units, with US uniforms and equipment, typically one generation behind the frontline troops, and were authorised to use their weapons as needed within strict rules of engagement.[32]

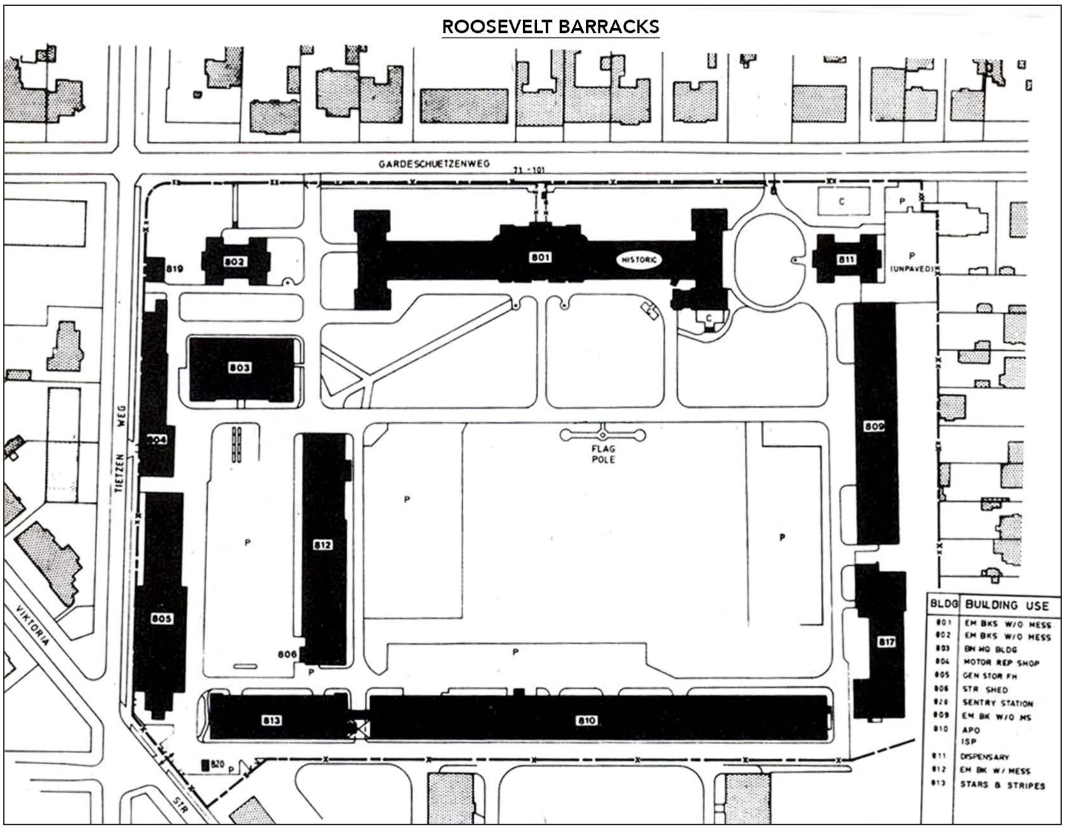
1. To ward off a current, illegal attack, with danger to life and limb, on self or others
2. To prevent crimes with the use of force that endanger the lives or safety of persons
3. In the event of arrest of persons who have committed a crime (another 'catch-all')
4. If expressly ordered by certain guard commanders or US officers

Warning calls or shots should be used as follows:

1. Warning call: Before each firearm use, the post must call the perpetrator(s) loudly and unambiguously by the loud call 'STOP'
2. Warning shots: Warning shots may only be fired if circumstances justify the use of lethal force, as a last resort

U.S.A.
41141976
6941 LS

MSG Christmann of the 6941st Guard Battalion standing next to a Deuce and a Half truck. (MSG Christmann via Lutz Griesbach, guardbattalion.de)



Plan of Roosevelt Barracks, West Berlin. (Lutz Griesbach, guardbattalion.de)

> to prevent the use of lethal force and only if innocent persons are not endangered

Troopers wore the patch of the US Civilian Support Groups (CSG, which later became the Civilian Support Centers or CSC) on their left shoulder and the unit patch featuring the Berlin bear on the right. There were several variations to CSG patch over the years – the so-called 'Cognac' patch had three white stars out of a blue background over a red striped shield, but there was also a version with the word GERMAN in gold out of the blue. There was also a version that had the word BERLIN in gold over the three stars, and a low-visibility version for use on camouflage uniforms.

They wore the standard M1 helmet liner with a military police-style white band painted around it and the CSG 'GERMAN' badge at the front. To all intents and purposes, to the uninitiated, they would have looked like US MPs.

For public facing security or patrol work, they carried wooden truncheons or batons, and were armed with .45-cal M1911 Colt Government semi-automatic pistols in black leather holsters, which were eventually replaced with the M9 9mm Beretta. For static guarding of higher security installations (ammunition dumps, Teufelsberg), the guards carried the standard US rifles of the time, initially the M1 Garand or Carbine, then the M14, and finally the M16, carried NBC kit, and used the standard AN/PRC-77 (Platoon Radio) for communications, all compatible with their military counterparts in the city. The battalion used a variety of vehicles for patrol work – the 'Truck ¼-Ton M151A1/A2' (a.k.a. MUTT or Jeep) or the West German Volkswagen 181, which was developed from the Type 82 Kübelwagen from the Second World War and the civilian VW Beetle.

The battalion maintained its own communications, transport (typically US military or locally purchased Mercedes trucks), logistics and support facilities and while they were supervised by the Civilian Persons Division (CPD) of the US armed forces in Berlin, they were administered by the Labor Services Agency of the Civilian Support Organization in Heidelberg.

6941st Gd Bn (LS) guarded the General Lucius D. Clay Headquarters complex and US Consulate on Clay Allee in Dahlem, all the US barracks, ammunition depots, warehouses, communications, and transport facilities across the US sector. They also guarded the housing areas, sports and recreational facilities, shopping centres and schools serving the US garrison, and special US facilities such as the Berlin Document Center. They also provided an extra layer of security at large public events such as the annual Allied Forces Day or when the general threat level was high.

For most of the Cold War the 6941st Gd Bn were based at Roosevelt Barracks, although they were temporarily moved to Andrews Barracks during the 1958–1961 Berlin Crises when incoming US troops needed housing. In 1991, they moved back to Andrews Barracks, until 30 September 1993, when the unit was disbanded. For over 40 years, the unit provided a professional service to the US forces in Berlin, without major incident. However, given the widespread penetration of West Berlin society by East German *Stasi* agents, it is safe to assume that the East Germans knew all about the facilities they were guarding and the defensive procedures in place.

The complex known as Roosevelt Barracks on Gardeschützenweg in Berlin-Lichterfelde was built in 1884 to house a Royal Prussian Guards Regiment and remained in use by the Germany army and police units until the end of the Second World War. The site was taken over by US forces in July 1945, and from 1945 to 1950 it was occupied by elements of the 3rd and 16th Infantry Regiments. From 1950 until 1991 (except for three years between 1958 and 1961 when the garrison was being reinforced), it was also home of the 6941st Guard Battalion and various units of the West Berlin police. Once the US forces left Berlin the site became home to the *Bundeswehr* (German armed forces) Regional Defense Command and has since become home to the Berlin HQ of the German Federal Foreign Intelligence Service, the *Bundesnachrichtendienst* (BND).

The *Wachpolizei* (*WaPo* or *WaPol*) was set up by the Allied powers in 1947 as an auxiliary police guard service to free up the *Schutzpolizei* (*SchuPo*, regular uniformed police, as opposed to *Kriminalpolizei*, *KriPo*, who did detective work) from having to guard official, government and diplomatic buildings from all the Allied powers and the West Berlin *Senat*. They wore similar uniforms to the *SchuPos*, and were armed, but were 'civilian' employees of the State of Berlin and as such had limited powers – they could demand to see papers and search individuals but did not have full powers of arrest. They would typically be armed with side arms and batons but would also carry sub-machine guns/rifles at high security sites. There was some cross over with the paramilitary civilian guard units (the American 6941st Guard Battalion and the British 248 German Security Unit – Royal Military Police), but the militarised civilian guards were primarily focused on military sites, while the *WaPos* concentrated on official civilian sites.

4

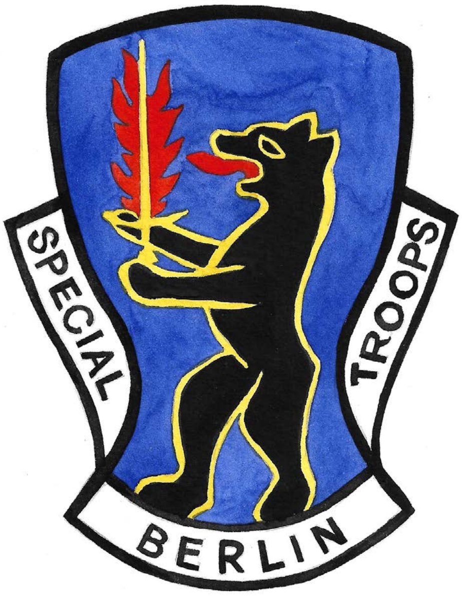
OTHER UNITS

Special Troops

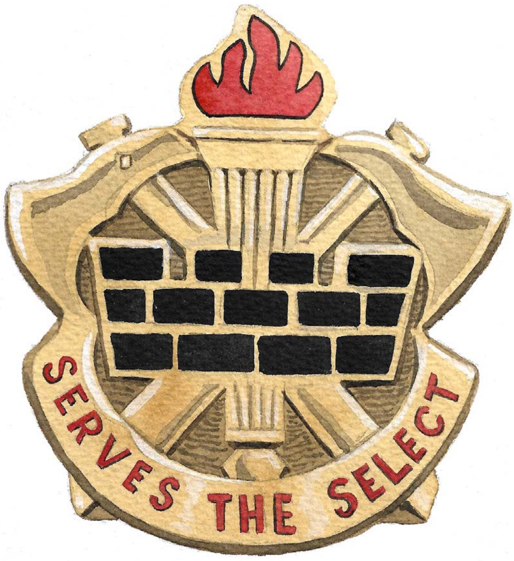
In July 1945, as US forces entered Berlin for the first time, the 7780th Composite Service Battalion was established as a holding unit for the support units that did not fall under the command of the various infantry units that were rotating through the city. The 7780th soon became the Headquarters and Service Battalion, 7781st Army Unit (HSB 7781st AU), but by 1956–1957, they were being referred to as 'Special Troops' or 'Special Troops Headquarters' on the Berlin Command *Organizational and Directory Chart*. At various times, as the Berlin Command (and Army in general) reorganised itself, the 'Special Troops' of the Berlin Brigade would include headquarters and headquarters companies (HHC), service companies, various signals units, the Army band, the city's Military Police, engineers, the Brigade's armoured contingent, and the Aviation Detachment. Because of the unique self-sufficiency required by the US forces in the city, the Special Troops acted as an umbrella holding unit for units that would appear elsewhere in the structure of a normal military organisation. In an attempt to foster a degree of unit cohesion, soldiers assigned to Special Troops Headquarters (and Headquarters Berlin Brigade) were given a special insignia to wear on their sleeve (on the opposite side to the Berlin Brigade insignia), featuring the black bear from the city's coat of arms, holding the flaming sword from the SHAEF/Berlin Brigade crest (there were two versions of the badge, with the bear looking either direction).

One key unit assigned to Special Troops Headquarters was the Signal Company, which was responsible for the Brigade's communications. In 1962 it was re-flagged as the 592nd Signal Company (Support), and then in 1976 to Signal Support Company. The company was split into two main groups: a 'garrison' unit and a 'field' unit. The garrison unit consisted of specialists working in the headquarters compound running the central telephone office, the radio transmission equipment, crypto intercepts, and support activities, while the field unit maintained and ran field tests of mobile equipment for use when deployed on exercise or in case of hostilities. The latter included mobile radio and microwave transmission equipment, mobile telephone switchboards and other equipment necessary to keeping the Brigade's central communications working.

The Special Troops structure did not suit some of the more combat orientated units. Company A, 20th Engineer Battalion (C) was assigned to Special Troops in the early 1960s, becoming 42nd Engineer Company in 1964. Company F (40th Armor), previously Company F (Patton), was moved into Special Troops in 1964, which made little sense and they were moved back to a frontline 'Assigned' unit in 1970. In the late 1970s, the US Military Community Activity (USMCA) initiative forced the issue. The USMCA was introduced to recognise the role US garrisons had to play in the local communities in which they located. Between 1975 and 1990, there were



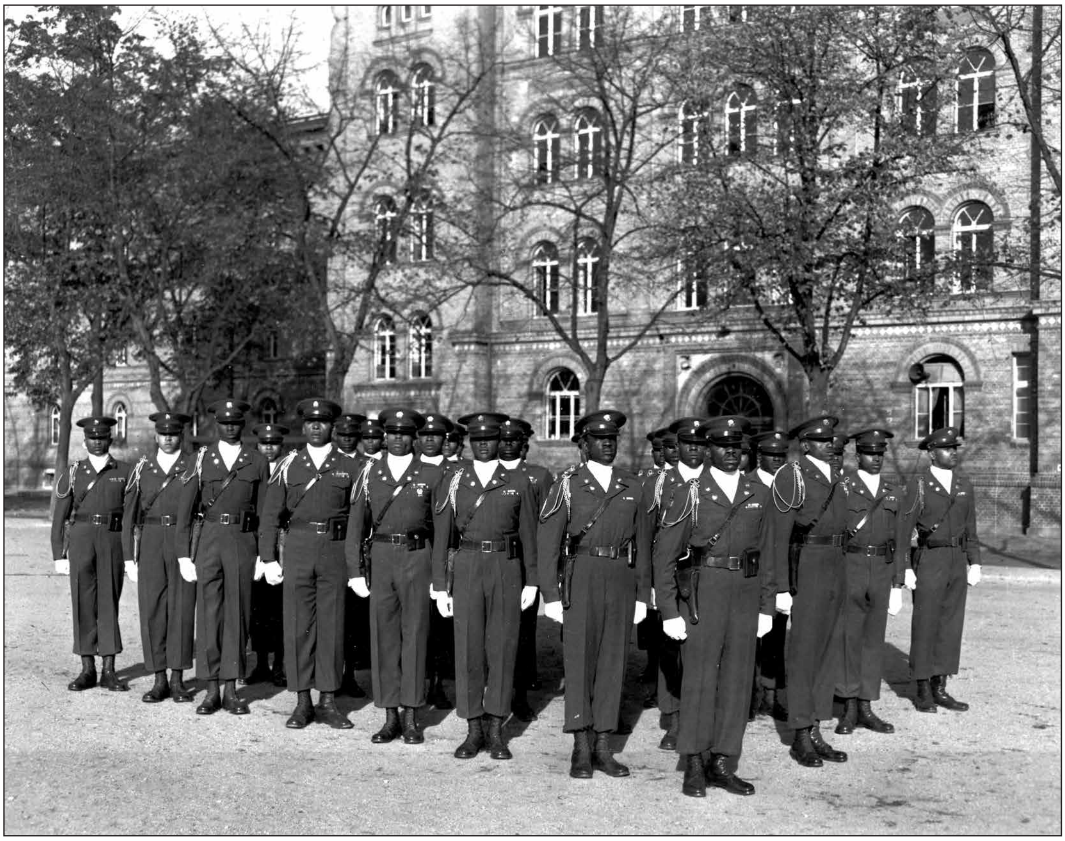
Distinctive Unit Insignia of the Special Troops and Special Troops Headquarters, Berlin Brigade, US Army. Unlike most combat units, which could rely on the various support units on the base, the Berlin Brigade had to be self-sufficient because of their unique geographical circumstances. 'Special Troops' was a holding unit created within the Brigade for these supporting units, such as headquarters and headquarters companies, MPs, service units, signals units, and the band. The insignia features the black bear from the city's coat of arms, holding the flaming sword from the SHAEF/Berlin Brigade patch. (Renato Dalmaso)



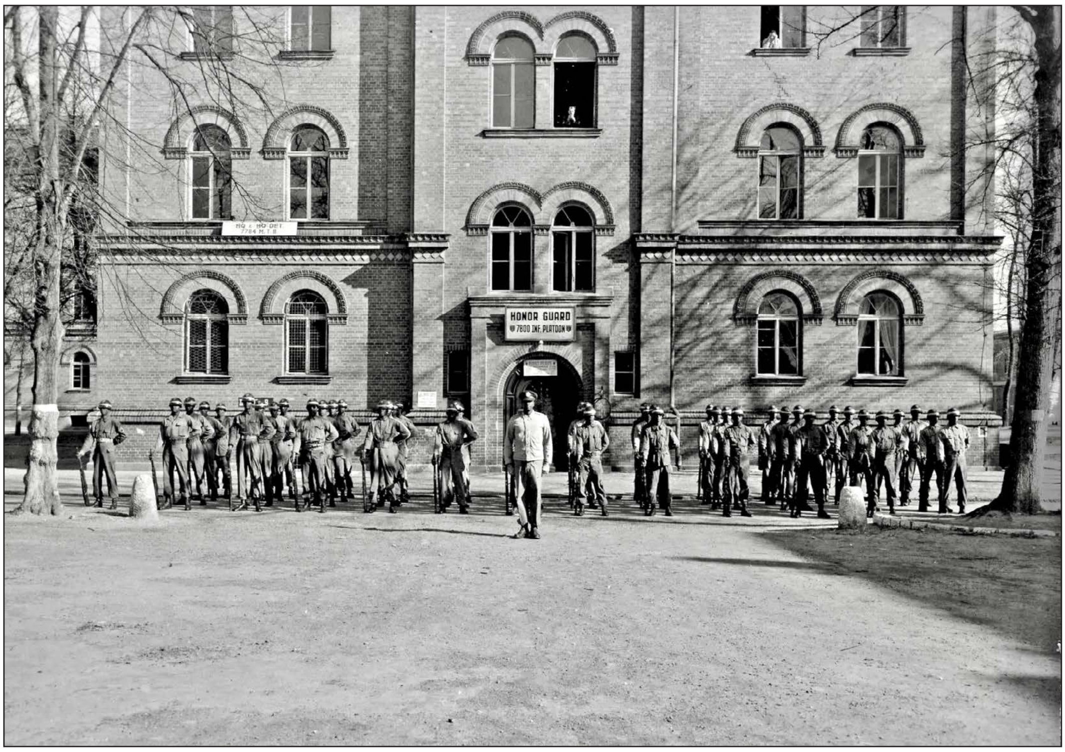
Distinctive Unit Insignia of the Special Troops Headquarters, and later the Combat Support Battalion, Berlin Brigade, US Army. The insignia had been used since 1968 for some elements within the Berlin Brigade Special Troops, but a reorganisation in August 1979 created the Combat Support Battalion incorporating the combat orientated units. The badge consists of a flaming torch symbolising the free city of West Berlin, the Berlin Wall, two battle axes, and the motto 'Serves the Select'. (Renato Dalmaso) around 42 separate Military Communities (also called MILCOMs) in USAREUR, including West Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Great Britain, and Italy. The combat arms of the Berlin Brigade did not fit within that philosophy, so a new umbrella unit was created in 1979 to sweep up the units which directly supported the combat aims of the Berlin Brigade – the Combat Support Battalion. This new organisation incorporated the engineer, armour, artillery, military police, signals contingents of the Berlin Brigade and the team working at the Helmstedt checkpoint.

7800th Infantry Platoon

Andrews Barracks in West Berlin has the dubious claim to have housed the last racially segregated unit in the US Army, the 7800th Infantry Platoon, which was a crack drill team composed entirely of African Americans.[1] Despite the efforts of Abraham Lincoln, the Civil War, and Emancipation, the US Army continued to have a problem with racism right through to the 1970s, reflecting the general trends within American society. This situation was exacerbated by enforced segregation during the Second World War and institutional racism at the very highest levels in the military. General Joseph T. McNarney, the military governor of the American Zone from 1945 to 1947, said that it would take 100 years before 'the Negro will develop to the point where he will be on a parity with white Americans.' Unsurprisingly, there were no African Americans on his staff in Frankfurt. With mounting pressure to ease racial hostilities, General Lucius D. Clay, who replaced McNarney as military governor in 1947, ordered the creation of the 7800th Infantry Platoon – an 'Honor' guard of African Americans troops based in Berlin, stationed at Andrews Barracks, ironically the former home of Hitler's *SS* bodyguards. While by modern standards it was an extremely 'tone-deaf' and insensitive initiative – putting African Americans on show for the benefit of visiting dignitaries – it was a deliberate public relations ploy. According to Brigadier General Frank L. Howley, the American Commandant of Berlin, 'the soldiers were handpicked, handsome men, all over six feet [tall]. They were excellently trained, smartly uniformed, and, when they appeared on parade, Russian propaganda about the sorry lot of the American Negro looked pretty silly.' On 26 July 1948, President Truman

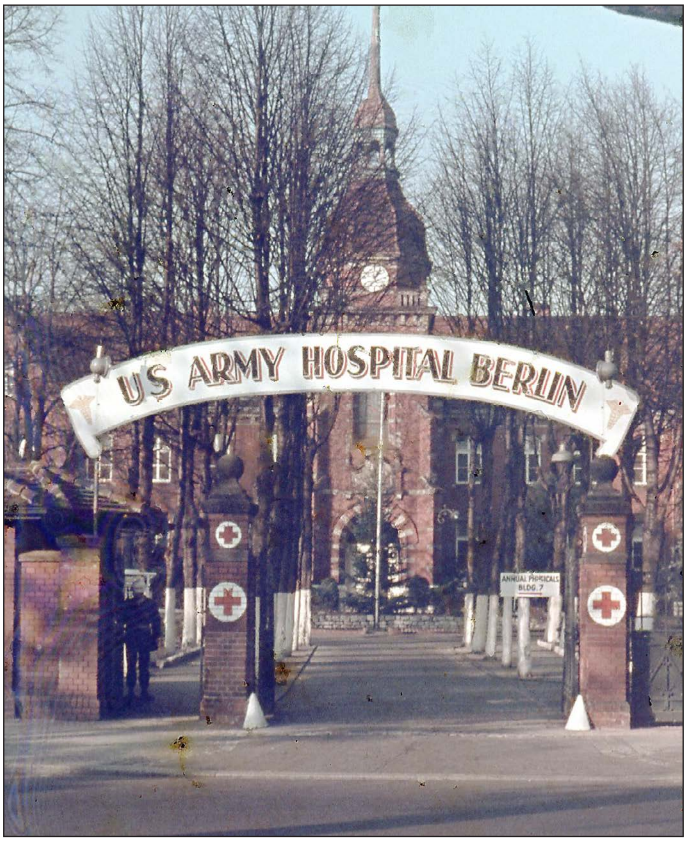


Contemporary caption: '*7800th Infantry Platoon stand at attention. Thirty black members, approximately 75% of the 7800th Infantry Platoon, who have extended their enlistment to five years, stand at attention in Berlin, Germany. The Platoon is an Honor guard composed of selected men from colored units throughout the European Command, and give exhibitions as a drill team in addition to duties as an Honor guard for distinguished visitors to the city*', 25 October 1947. (Ike Skelton Combined Arms Research Library Digital Library, Fort Leavenworth, KS, USA)



The 7800th Drill Team. (US Army/National Archives

The 7800th Drill Team. (US Army/National Archives)



The entrance to the US Army Hospital, Berlin on Fabeckstraße in Berlin-Dahlem, 1954. (Edmund von Nordeck via R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)

BERLIN
279 TH
STATION HOSPITAL
HEADQUARTERS
MEDICAL
DETACHMENT

279th Station Hospital Headquarters Medical Detachment sign, 1954. (Edmund von Nordeck via R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)

signed Executive Order 9981 desegregating the entire armed forces, declaring that 'there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion or national origin.' The 7800th drill team was quietly disbanded around 1950 making it the last officially segregated unit in the US Army, but it would still take decades before soldiers of colour were treated equitably in the US forces.

Medical Services

When the Americans took over their sector in July 1945, they provided three tiers of medical care. The first tier was provided by the 10th Medical General Dispensary, offering General Practitioner out-patients services to American personnel at various sites around the city. Should their condition demand it, patients could be referred onto the 279th Station Hospital for out-patient treatment or an in-patient stay of up to 10 days.

Patients requiring more intensive care or a longer stay (up to 120 days) would be transferred to the 101st General Hospital, a 450-bed hospital established in a former school in Zehlendorf, the *Zinnowwald Schule*, in August 1945 as the only full-facility (third tier) US general hospital in Berlin.[2] Beyond 120 days, patients would be Medevac'd to hospitals in the American Zone of West Germany or back to CONUS (Continental USA). The 101st General Hospital and the 279th Station Hospital were given the job of establishing 'Fixed' (permanent, non-'Field') second and third tier medical services for US forces in Berlin. The 101st only stayed at the *Zinnowwald Schule* until 17 September when they moved across the city to *Krankenhaus Buckow* in Neukölln establishing Hospital Plant # 4468.[3]

The 279th Station Hospital requisitioned the former *Stubenrauch Kreiskrankeuhaus* on Unter den Eichen in Lichterfelde-West in July 1945, as the location for US Army Hospital Plant # 4464. This grand former hospital dated back to the turn of the century, was used as an *SS* clinic during the war but had survived largely

The 298th US Army Band playing at a parade in West Berlin. (Dan Herman)

The 298th US Army Band playing at an outdoor event in West Berlin. (Dan Herman)

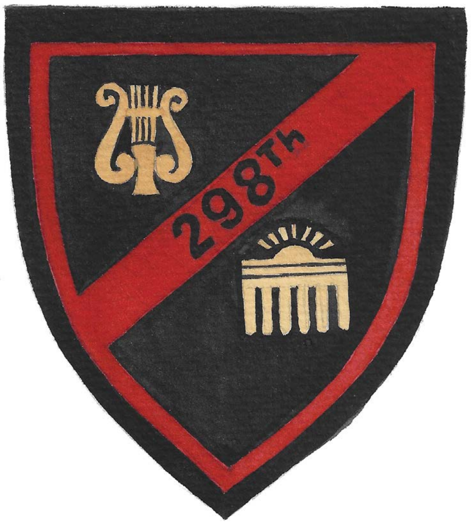
intact. A programme of repairs began and by February 1946, the hospital had expanded to 750 beds, operated by about 450 US medical personnel from the 279th, supplemented by around 500 local civilian workers under the 8071st LS Medical General Dispensary, who provided all the non-medical services. Other US units on site included the 253rd Medical Mess Detachment, the 1112nd Army Postal Unit, the 15th Medical Depot Company, and the 428th MP Escort Guard Company providing security.[4]

Within a very short time both hospitals were processing thousands of military and civilian patients, with sexually transmitted diseases being a major issue with US servicemen. Around 1950, the second and third tier hospitals were consolidated into the US Army Hospital, Berlin (USAHB) at Unter den Eichen, staffed by an enlarged 279th Medical Detachment. In 1971 the West Berlin *Senat* approved the funding to build a modern state-of-the-art 220-bed hospital nearby on Fabeckstraße, which was opened to patients on 1 October 1976. At the same time, the 279th became the Berlin MEDDAC (Medical Department Activity), being joined by DENTAC (Dental Activity) as a separate command in 1978. The site was shared by the 168th Medical Detachment (Veterinary Services), who provided equine and small animal veterinary care.

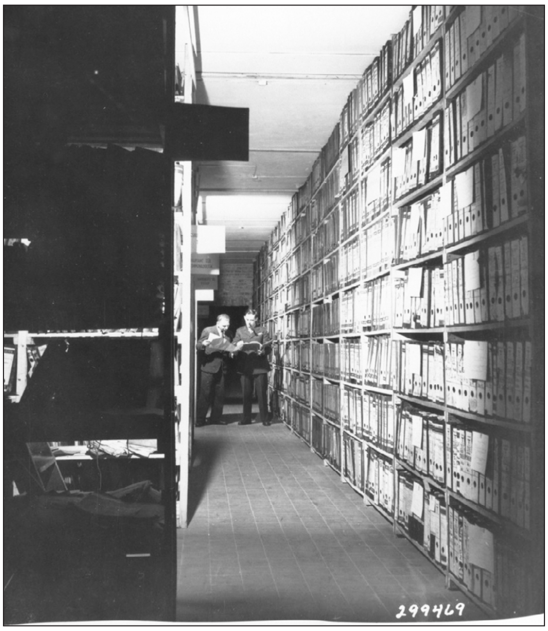
In 1969, the USAHB was taken out of the Berlin Brigade command structure and assigned to United States Army Medical Command, Europe (USAMEDCOMEUR), into which all US Army medical services across Europe were being consolidated. In 1978, USAMEDCOMEUR became the US Army 7th Medical Command (MEDCOM), based in Heidelberg, which continued through to 1994.[5] The site now forms part of the Campus Benjamin Franklin, part of the huge Charité teaching hospital.

298th Army Band

The importance of military music to garrison life cannot be underestimated. The 298th Army Band were amongst the first troops to enter Berlin on 4 July 1945 and performed at parades, ceremonies, official functions, concerts, and social events right up until the Berlin Brigade was deactivated on 12 July 1994. The core band also produced numerous smaller ensembles such as jazz bands, fanfare parties, or polka groups, performing for the US military community and West Berliners, including at the annual German-American *Volksfest*. It fulfilled an important part of the US 'hearts and minds' community relations activity as 'cultural ambassadors.' Band members, however, were soldiers first and foremost, and had to remain fit and pass their annual weapons qualification. The band also had secondary roles including supporting the Base Hospital with medics and orderlies, tactical security support (including for a while as riot suppression troops) and base perimeter security. Many famous musicians would start their careers with the 298th, such as jazz trumpeter Chet Baker, who played with the 298th in Berlin between 1946 and 1949.



Unit insignia patch of the 298th Army Band, US Army, Berlin. The lyre symbol is often associated with military musicians, while the gate symbol represents the iconic Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. The patch was discontinued by the 1980s, replaced with the normal Berlin Brigade Shoulder Sleeve Insignia. (Renato Dalmaso)



Two American researchers at the Berlin Document Center, 1947. (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

The 298th US Army Band playing in full combat gear at Tempelhof airbase in West Berlin. (Dan Herman)

Soldiers from the 298th US Army Band on the range during weapons training, West Berlin. (Dan Herman)

The 298th Army Band and the 168th Medical Detachment (Veterinary Services) share the honour of being the only units in the Berlin garrison who served continually from the day US forces entered the city (4 July 1945), until the day they left (12 July 1994), 49 years of uninterrupted service.

Berlin Document Center

The 7771st Document Center (later the Berlin Document Center, BDC) on Wasserkäfersteig, Zehlendorf, Berlin was established on 10 May 1945, immediately after the occupation of Berlin by the Allied forces with the aim of concentrating the archival documentation of the Third Reich's institutions, the Nazi party and the organisations associated with the party. The files were rescued from destruction in May 1945 when they were discovered by US Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) agents at a paper mill in Freimann, Germany, where they had been shipped by the Nazi leadership to be pulped. They included the central membership file of the NSDAP (Nazi Party) and personnel files of *SS* officers above the rank of *Untersturmführer* (second lieutenant) and were used extensively to track down and prosecute war criminals. Given the widespread integration of former Nazis across both East and West German post-war society, the material was also of considerable interest to the Allied and West German intelligence services in screening refugees and defectors, vetting personnel, and even blackmailing individuals to work for them. The collection was officially returned to German ownership in 1994. In 1996, the documents of the former BDC were merged with the holdings of the German Reich Department at the new Federal Archives facility in Berlin-Lichterfelde. The entire collection was microfilmed and is available at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., where researchers have much better access, unhindered by restrictive German privacy laws.

Infantry, armoured and combat engineer units of the Berlin Brigade will be examined in detail in a future volume of this mini-series.

5

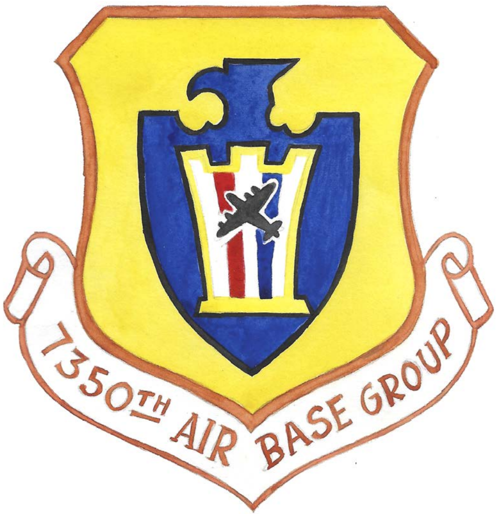
US AIR FORCE, BERLIN

The highly unusual circumstances that created the 'island' city of West Berlin 100 miles or so inside the Soviet Zone of occupation (which later became East Germany) meant that air transport was a critical lifeline. This lifeline was tested in the most demanding conditions during the 1948/49 blockade and airlift which saved the city from starvation, winning a logistical and moral victory over Stalin. The base for these air operations in the US Sector of West Berlin was Tempelhof Central Airport (TCA), located in the northwest of their sector, and a couple of miles due south of the city centre.[1]

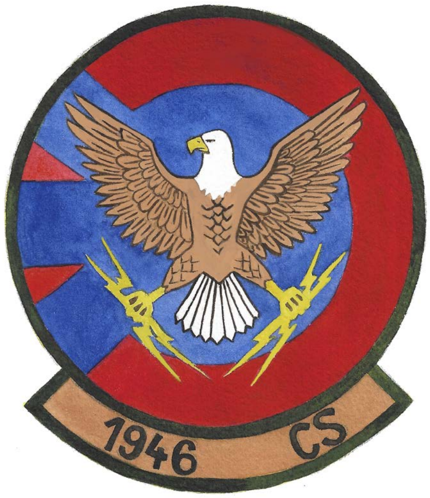
There had been an airfield at Tempelhof since the 1920s, but the real development began before the Second World War as one of Hitler's prestige projects for the capital city of his new empire.[2] Although the architect's dream was never fully realised, it was nonetheless a very impressive facility, consisting of 355 hectares (877 acres) of land, approximately 300 hectares (741 acres) for the open 'field' (Tempelhofer Feld), with buildings and the huge apron occupying around 55 hectares (136 acres). From end to end the terminal building was 1.2km (0.7mi) long, with approximately 200,000m^2 (2,152,780sq ft) of useable space including a cavernous arrivals hall. Tempelhof operated as an airfield until 25 April 1945 when the Red Army occupied the site, stripping it of much of its infrastructure before it was finally handed over to the Americans in July 1945.

The US advance party established Tempelhof as Advanced Landing Ground (ALG) R-95, with United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) personnel establishing a headquarters and operations centre for the now named United States Army Air Forces Station Tempelhof. The 852nd Engineer Aviation Battalion arrived at Tempelhof on 10 July 1945 and immediately began tidying up ahead of the Potsdam Conference, which was held from 17 July to 2 August 1945, although President Truman and most of the VIPs travelled through RAF Gatow in the British Sector. Repairs and reconstruction began immediately, albeit not to the architect's original plans – the occupation authorities were more concerned with function, not form. The first USAAF flying unit assigned was the 301st Troop Carrier Squadron, with its ground echelon arriving as part of the advance party in July 1945 and beginning operational flying in August. They would be succeeded by the 47th Troop Carrier Squadron (1946–1947), the 12th Troop Carrier Squadron (1947–1948) and the 53rd Troop Carrier Squadron (1948–1949).

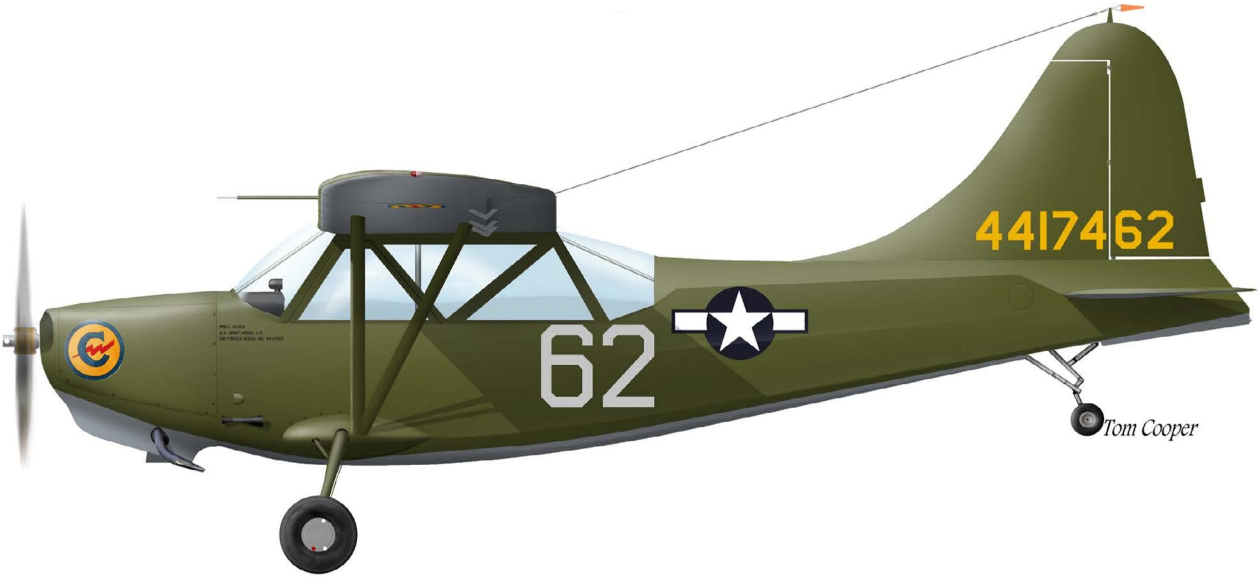
Tempelhof served as the Berlin hub of the USAAF European Air Transport Service (EATS) from 1945 to 1947, handling passenger and freight transport for the US military. On 9 September 1946 it was renamed Tempelhof Army Air Base, and it supported the mission of the Office of Military Government, United States (OMGUS) and



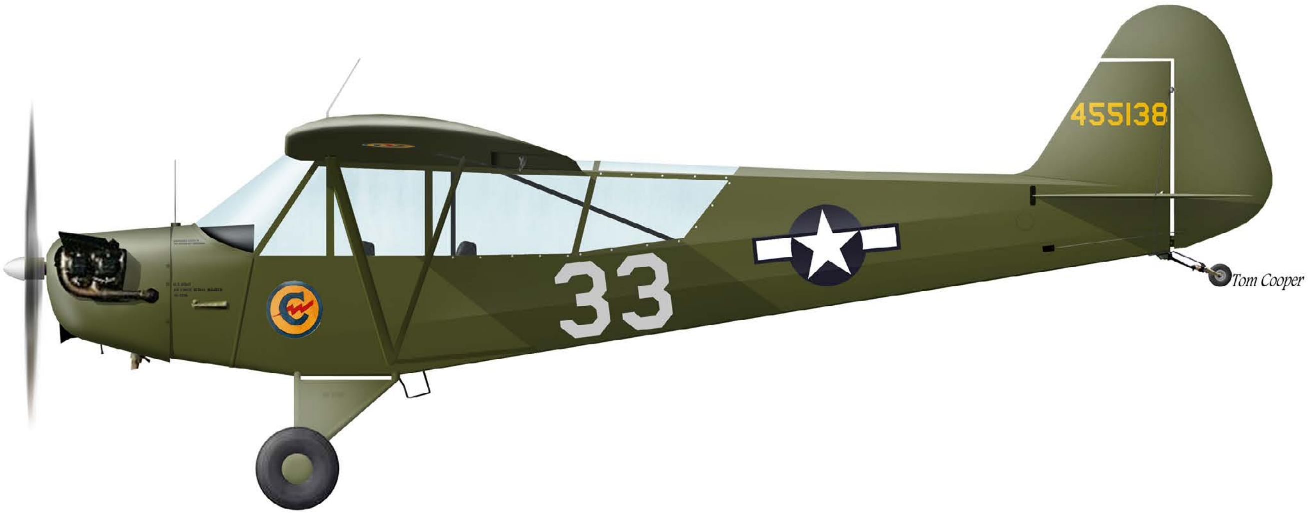
Unit insignia patch of the 7350th Air Base Group, USAF. The 7350th were responsible for running Tempelhof Air Base and distinguished themselves during the 1948–1949 Berlin Airlift. Their insignia features the Airlift Memorial at Tempelhof (*Luftbrückendenkmal*) and the silhouette of a C-54 Skymaster transport aircraft, which was responsible for bringing most of the tonnage during the airlift. (Renato Dalmaso)



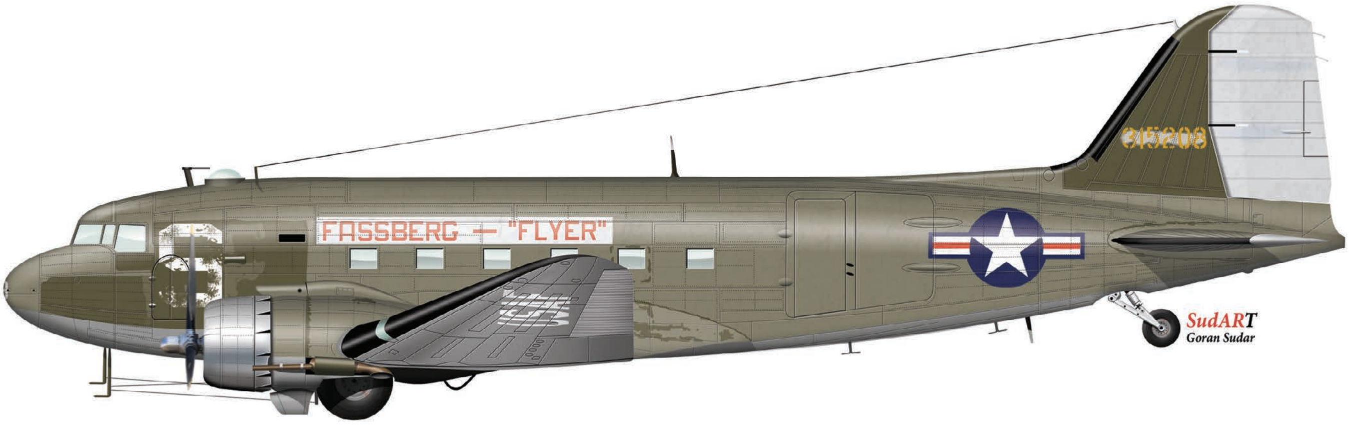
Unit insignia patch of the 1946th Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron, USAF. The 1946th provided radio communications, radar, air traffic control services at Tempelhof Air Base. The insignia features the watchful eyes of an eagle to ensure the safety of flights in and out of Berlin, the lightning bolts reflecting their telecommunications role, the blue represents the Berlin Control Zone (BCZ) and three air corridors, which are surrounded by a sea of red, representing the communists. (Renato Dalmaso)



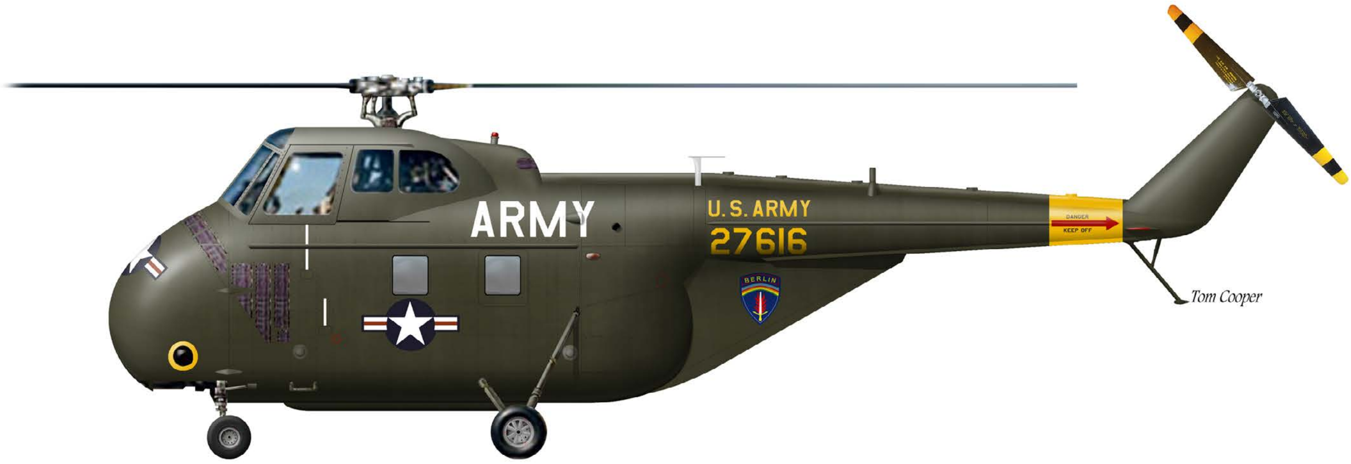
Stinson L-5 Sentinel of the US Constabulary, c.1946. The L-5 (L for Liaison) was one of the most widely used 'liaison' aircraft used during the Second World War, and its use continued up until the mid 1950s. With an impressive short field take-off and landing (STOL) capability, the Sentinel was the military version of the civilian Stinson 105 Voyager. The US Constabulary used these stable three-seaters (two side-by-side seats and a third 'jump seat' in the back) for patrols and photographic reconnaissance over the American Sector of Berlin. The emblem on the nose is the shoulder sleeve insignia (SSI) of the US Constabulary, 'Circle C'. (Tom Cooper)



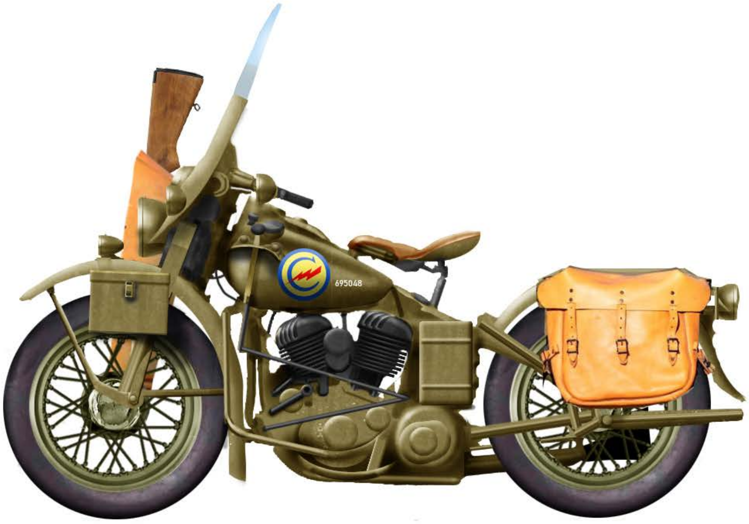
Piper L-4 'Grasshopper' of the US Constabulary, c.1946. The L-4 was the military version of the highly successful Piper Cub from the 1930s and served with the US military right through to Korea. The high-wing monoplane design with two seats in a tandem configuration was an ideal observation and reconnaissance platform, and its extraordinary short take-off and landing capability made it an ideal 'liaison' aircraft, acquiring the nickname 'Grasshopper'. Around Berlin, the L-4 was the ideal patrol aircraft for the US Constabulary. (Tom Cooper)



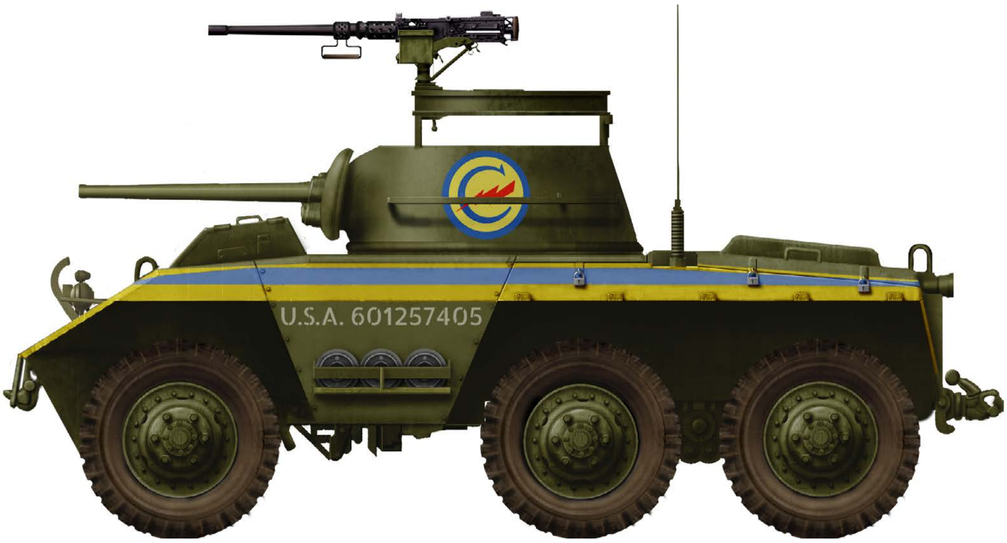
The Douglas C-47 Skytrain was the main transport aircraft available in the European Theatre at the start of the Berlin Airlift in June 1948, operated by the USAF as the C-47 Skytrain and by the RAF as the Dakota. It was gradually replaced in USAF service by the bigger and faster four-engine Douglas C-54 Skymaster. The aircraft shown is USAF Douglas C-47A Skytrain 315208 'FASSBERG FLYER', Fassberg being the American spelling of Faßberg, the RAF base in West Germany which hosted USAF aircraft during the airlift. (Goran Sudar)



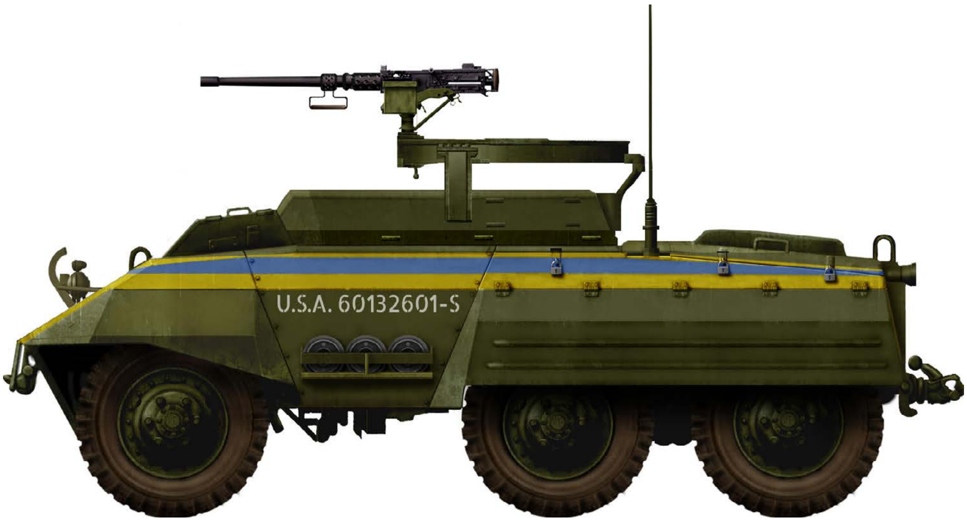
Sikorsky H-19 'Chickasaw' helicopter of the Berlin Brigade Aviation Detachment, early 1960s. The Chickasaw (named after a Native American tribe) was used extensively during the Korean War but did not begin flying with the Aviation Detachment of the Berlin Brigade until 1958. It was used for general communication and reconnaissance duties. On 21 September 1961, it flew General Lucius D. Clay on his controversial visit to the Steinstücken exclave after they were cut off by the building of the Berlin Wall. Thereafter, it was used to resupply the MP detachment who provided security for village. The Berlin Brigade badge can be seen under the boom. (Tom Cooper)



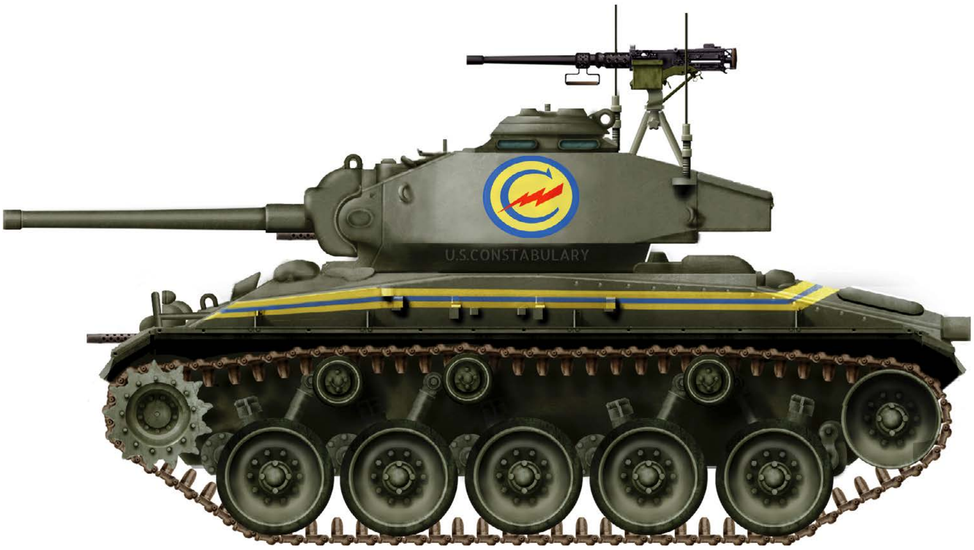
Harley-Davidson WLA motorcycle of the US Constabulary, c.1946. The WLA was developed as the militarized version of the earlier WL model, upgraded for military and off-road use. The enhanced specification included a leather rifle sheath on the right-hand side of the front fork, with an ammunition box on the opposite side, leather pannier cases, a siren, and flashing lights. This example also has the US Constabulary 'Circle C' badge on the fuel tank and a front wind shield. In Berlin they were used for patrolling and escort duties. (David Bocquelet)



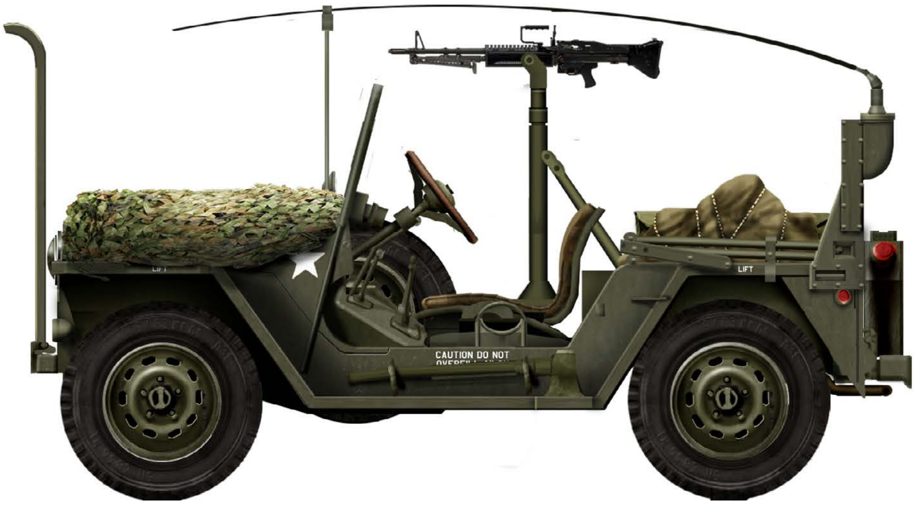
M8 Greyhound light armoured car of the US Constabulary c.1946. The Greyhound was a 6-wheeled lightly armoured car with a crew of four, which entered service in 1943, so the fleet inherited by the US Constabulary was well used and required a lot of refurbishment and ongoing maintenance. For a patrol vehicle in post-war Berlin, it was considerably over-specified with its 37mm M6 repeating cannon, .30-cal Browning M1919A4 machine gun fitted coaxially with the main armament, and .50-cal M2 HB heavy machine gun fitted on a ring on the top of the turret, but it was all about projecting American power to the conquered Germans and the Soviets. The high visibility paint scheme and large 'Circle C' badge on the turret completed the look. (David Bocquelet)



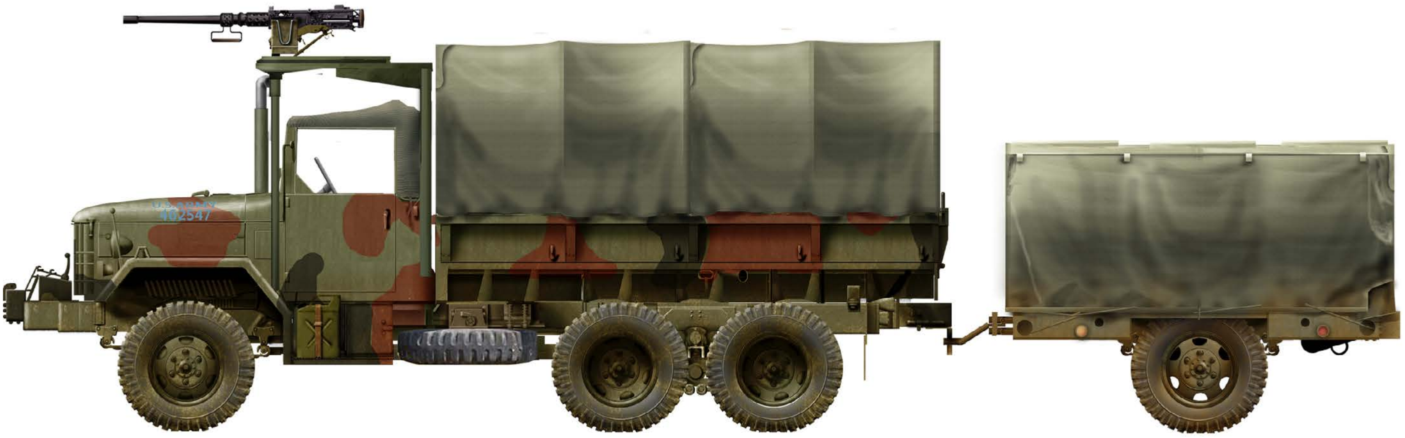
M20 Armored Utility Command Car of the US Constabulary c.1946. The M20 was based on the M8 Greyhound, replacing the M8's gun turret with a .50-cal machine gun on a M49 or M66 ring mount. The M20 was used as a command-and-control vehicle and was fitted with an extra generator to power its two radios. The commander could stand inside the gun mount, or in front of it, and the driver sat in the left-hand position with his head through a hatch. Like the Greyhound, the M20 had quite respectable on and off-road performance, but was lightly armoured, not an issue in the relatively benign policing role. (David Bocquelet)



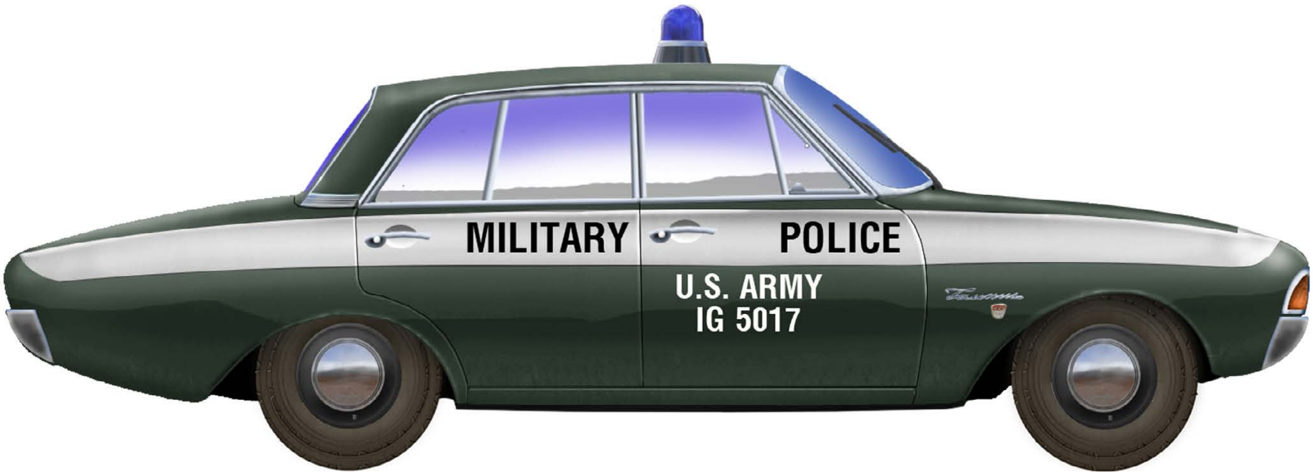
M24 Chaffee light tank of the US Constabulary, c.1946. The M24 Chaffee entered service with the US Army in 1944, just in time for the Battle of the Bulge, and war surplus models were pressed into service with the Constabulary. The armament was excessive for the policing role: a 75mm main gun with a .30-cal (7.62mm) machine gun mounted coaxially in the turret, a second .30-cal mounted in the hull, and a .50-cal (12.7mm) anti-aircraft machine-gun pintle mounted on top of the turret, manned by a crew of five. With the distinctive US Constabulary badge and blue/yellow stripes, it was an obvious projection of American power in post-war Germany and Berlin. (David Bocquelet)



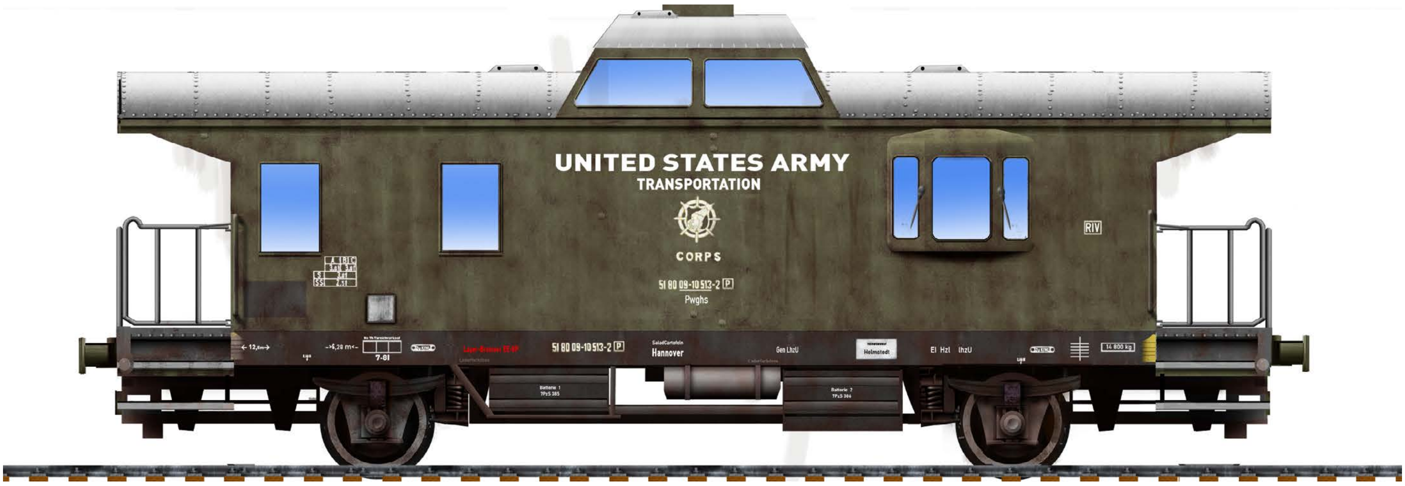
M151A2 Jeep of the Berlin Brigade, c.1969. The 'Truck, Utility, ¼-Ton, 4×4, M151' more commonly known as the MUTT (Military Utility Tactical Truck or simply the M151) was introduced in the early 1960s. In West Berlin it was used for patrolling the Wall and for general transport, armed with a post-mounted M60 machine gun and a steel wire cutter fitted to the front bumper to avoid the passengers being decapitated by thin wire strung across the road. (David Bocquelet)



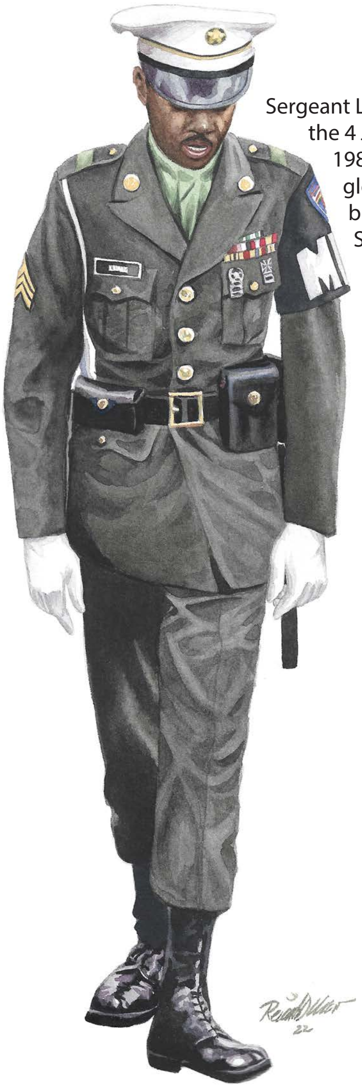
M35A2 truck towing an MKT-75 Mobile Field Kitchen, 1989. The 'Truck, Cargo, 2 1/2-ton, 6x6, M35' was launched in 1949 and nicknamed the 'Deuce and a half'. Its multifuel engine could work with virtually anything combustible: petrol; diesel; jet fuel; or even kerosene. The truck has an M2 HB .50-cal heavy machine gun fitted to an M66 gun mount above the cab and is finished in NATO 3-colour camouflage which was typical of the late 1980s. It is towing an MKT-75 Mobile Field Kitchen which would be used to feed up to 250 soldiers deployed on exercise in the field. (David Bocquelet)



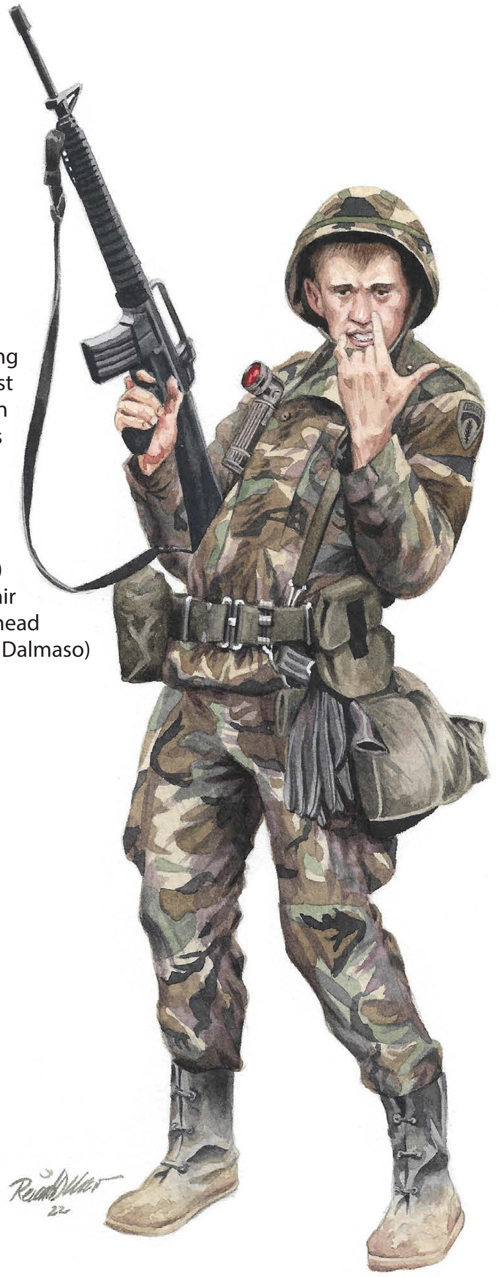
A Ford P3 Taunus 17M police car of the 287th Military Police Company, Berlin Brigade, as used at Checkpoint CHARLIE, early 1960s. The P3 Taunus 17M was the first German designed model in Ford's European saloon/sedan range and was produced by Ford Germany between September 1960 and August 1964. The styling was still distinctive, and the 17M picked up the nickname of *Badewannetaunus* (Bathtub Taunus). It had a 1.8 litre petrol engine, a four-speed manual gearbox, and could reach a top speed of 146km/h (91mph). In police car configuration with blue light beacon on the roof and siren, it would have been a comfortable patrol vehicle to use. (David Bocquelet)



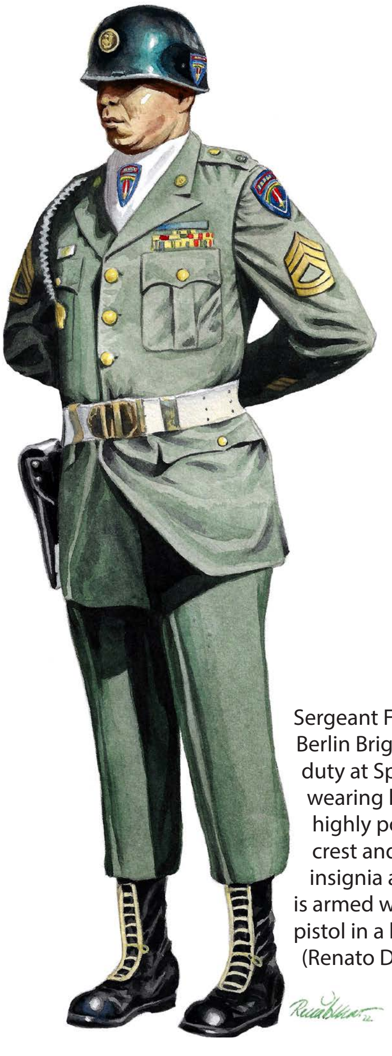
Guard escort carriage (known in the US as a 'caboose') from the US Army Berlin Duty Train. The Berlin Duty Train was operated by the Transportation Corps and operated from December 1945 to December 1990 between Bremerhaven on the Baltic Coast and Frankfurt am Main to West Berlin. Aside from the train driver/engineer, the train crew comprised a Transportation Corps first or second lieutenant as train commander, two MPs, a radio operator, a conductor, and an interpreter, who were based in this caboose. The carriage had observation bubbles on each side and on top, fitted with windscreen wipers, to keep an eye on the progress of the journey. (David Bocquelet)



Sergeant Lamb from the 287th Military Police Company, at the 4 July Parade on Platz des 4. Juli at McNair Barracks, 1982. He is wearing his Class 'A' uniform, with white gloves, a neck scarf in Military Police green and a black leather MP brassard with the Berlin Brigade SSI patch. On his belt, there is a black leather holster containing his M1911 .45-cal semi-automatic pistol, which is attached to a white lanyard over his right shoulder. Slotted into a ring on the belt there is also a 22in long, wooden night stick. (Renato Dalmaso)

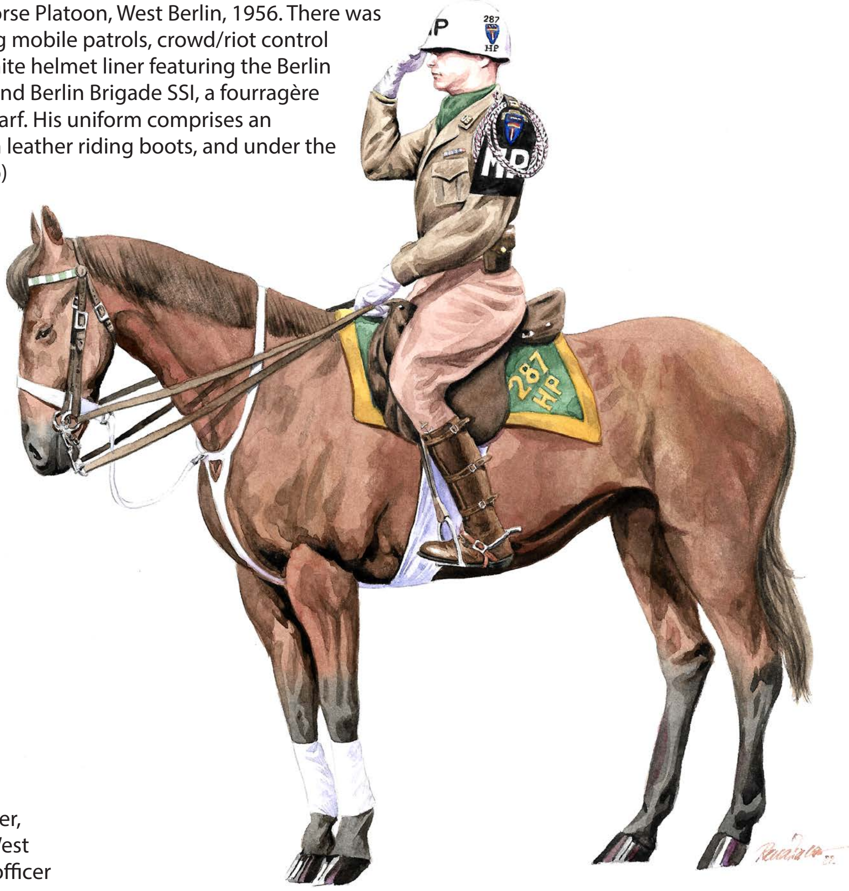


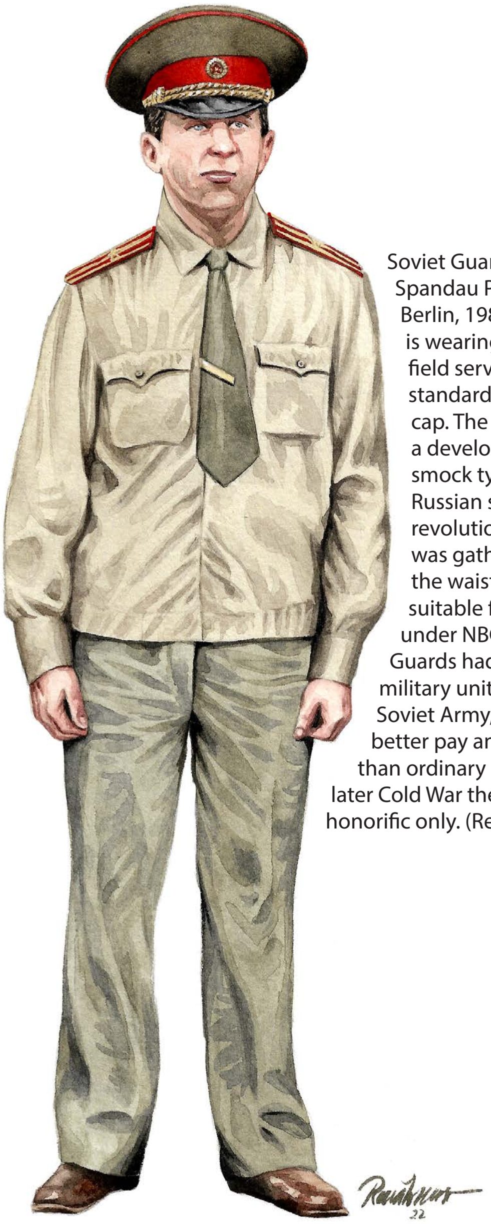
Soldier from the Berlin Brigade posing with his rifle during a field exercise in West Berlin, 1980s. The soldier is carrying an M16A2 rifle and is wearing Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) in woodland pattern, a PASGT helmet (with woodland pattern cover) and overboots/galoshes. He is also wearing All-Purpose Lightweight Individual Carrying Equipment (ALICE) webbing and carrying his gas mask, a pair of MOPP gloves, and an MX-991/U angle head flashlight. (Renato Dalmaso)



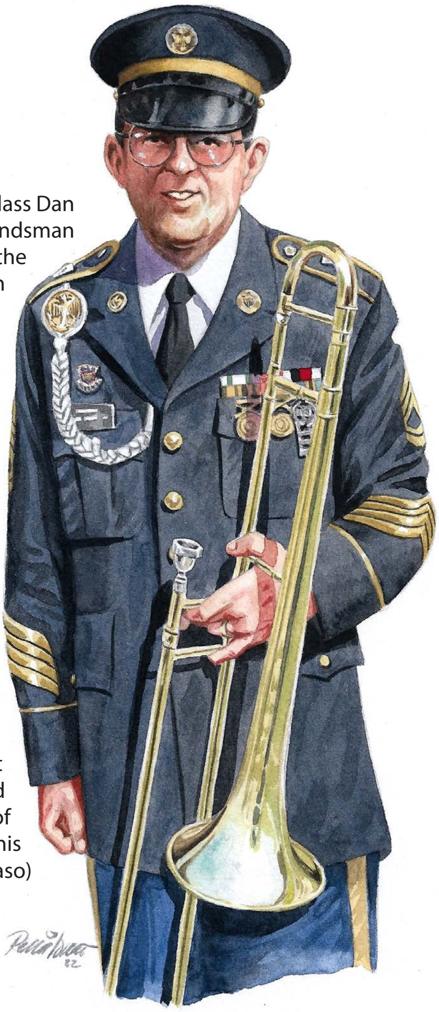
Sergeant First Class Melvin Walker of the 6th Infantry, Berlin Brigade, on parade before beginning guard duty at Spandau Allied Prison, 1983. Sgt Walker is wearing his Class 'A' uniform with white gloves and a highly polished helmet liner featuring the US Army crest and Berlin Brigade insignia. The Berlin Brigade insignia also appears on his scarf and left sleeve. He is armed with a M1911 Colt .45-cal semi-automatic pistol in a holster hanging from his parade belt. (Renato Dalmaso)

Mounted trooper from the 287th Military Police Company Horse Platoon, West Berlin, 1956. There was a horse platoon in West Berlin from 1945 to 1958 undertaking mobile patrols, crowd/riot control and ceremonial duties. This officer is wearing a distinctive white helmet liner featuring the Berlin Brigade insignia, MP brassard with the 287th Horse Platoon and Berlin Brigade SSI, a fourragère woven from red, white & blue braid, and green 'ascot' neck scarf. His uniform comprises an M-1950 wool field jacket, officer 'pink' riding breeches, brown leather riding boots, and under the saddle is the distinctive 287 MP saddle pad. (Renato Dalmaso)

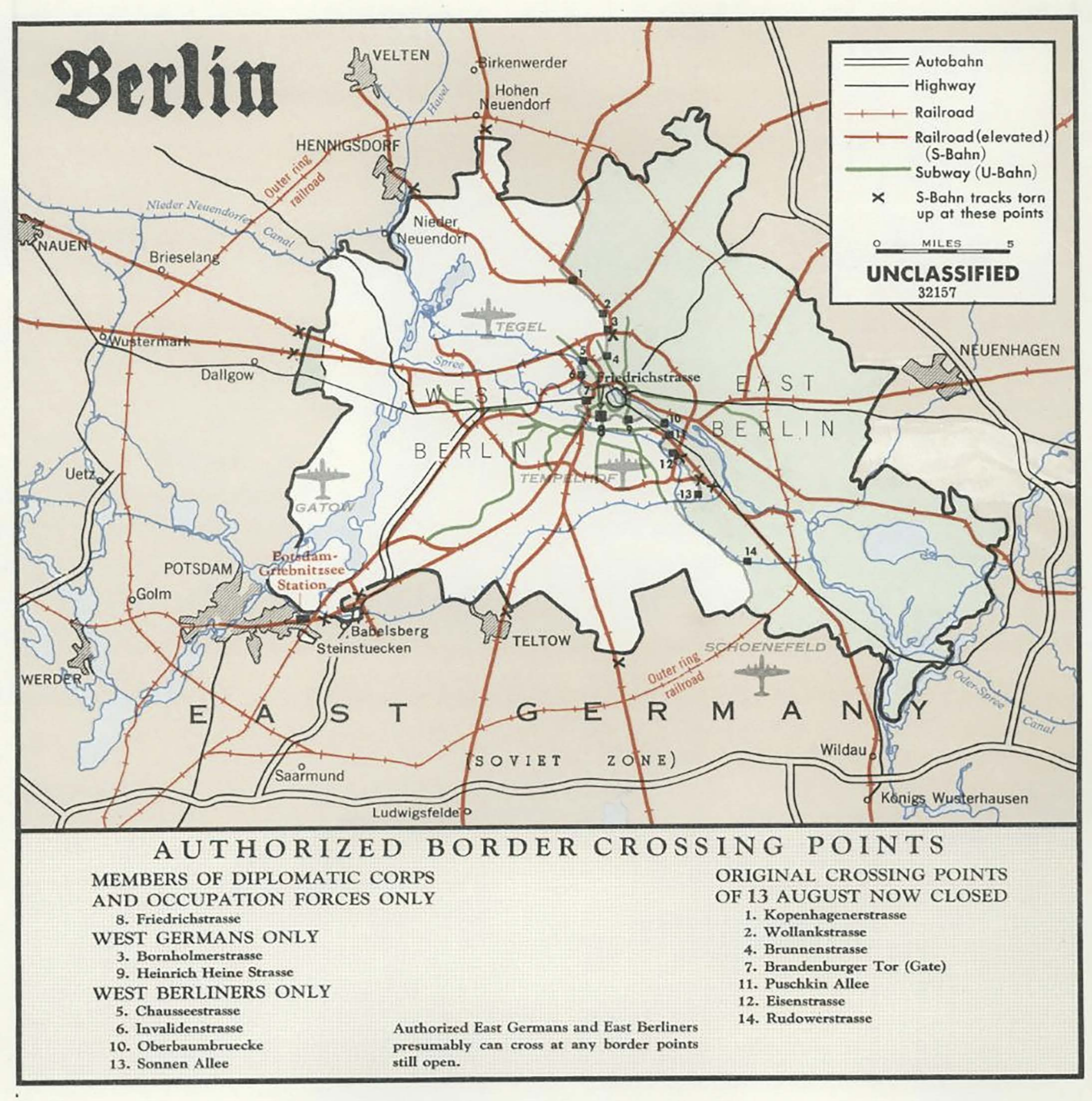




Soviet Guards Officer, Spandau Prison, West Berlin, 1986. The officer is wearing the summer field service uniform and standard Soviet officer's cap. The shirt/jacket was a development of the smock type top worn by Russian soldiers since revolutionary times but was gathered around the waist to make it suitable for wearing under NBC clothing. Guards had been elite military units within the Soviet Army, receiving better pay and equipment than ordinary units but by the later Cold War the title was an honorific only. (Renato Dalmaso)



Sergeant First Class Dan Hermann, a senior bandsman trombonist from the 298th Army Band, Berlin Brigade, 1980s. Sgt Hermann is wearing Army Service Uniform (Dress Variation). On his right shoulder he is wearing the *Schützenschnur* in Gold, the top Bundeswehr (German Armed Forces) decoration for Weapons Proficiency alongside his US marksmanship badges. The pin above his name badge and on his right-hand lapel is the Adjutant General Corps shield, the branch of the US military that includes army music and he has the insignia of the Berlin Brigade on his epaulettes. (Renato Dalmaso)


Berlin
Autobahn
Highway
Railroad
Railroad (elevated) (S-Bahn)
Subway (U-Bahn)
× S-Bahn tracks torn up at these points
0 MILES 5
UNCLASSIFIED
32157
VELTEN
Birkenwerder
Hohen Neuendorf
Havel
HENNIGSDORF
Outer ring railroad
Nieder Neuendorfer Canal
NAUEN
Brieselang
Nieder Neuendorf
TEGEL
Wustermark
Dallgow
Spree
Friedrichstrasse
NEUENHAGEN
WEST BERLIN
EAST BERLIN
TEMPELHOF
GATOW
Uetz
POTSDAM
Potsdam-Griebnitzsee Station
Golm
Babelsberg
Steinstuecken
TELTOW
SCHOENEFELD
WERDER
Outer ring railroad
Oder-Spree Canal
EAST GERMANY
(SOVIET ZONE)
Wildau
Saarmund
Königs Wusterhausen
Ludwigsfelde
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14

AUTHORIZED BORDER CROSSING POINTS

MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND OCCUPATION FORCES ONLY
8. Friedrichstrasse

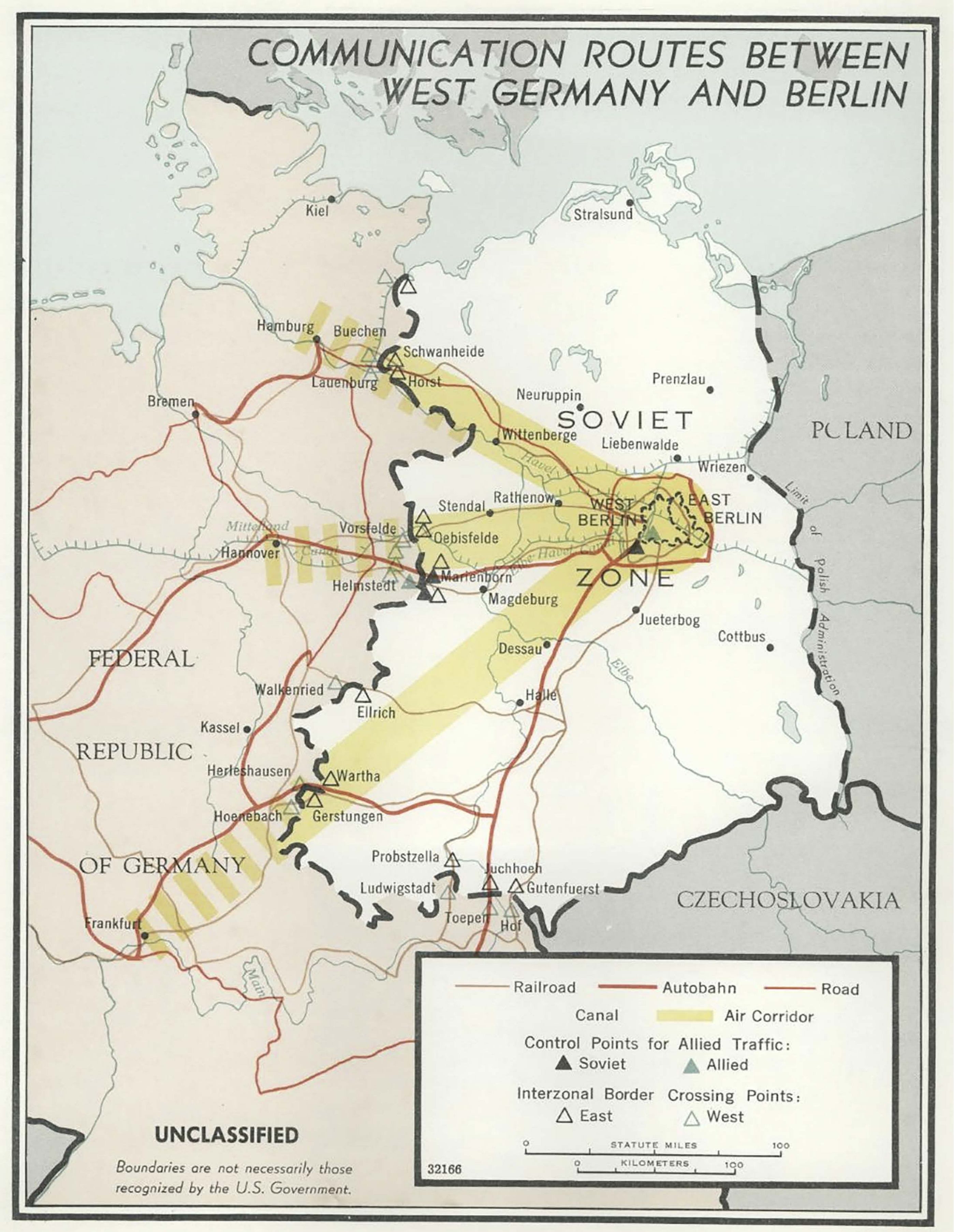
WEST GERMANS ONLY
3. Bornholmerstrasse
9. Heinrich Heine Strasse

WEST BERLINERS ONLY
5. Chausseestrasse
6. Invalidenstrasse
10. Oberbaumbruecke
13. Sonnen Allee

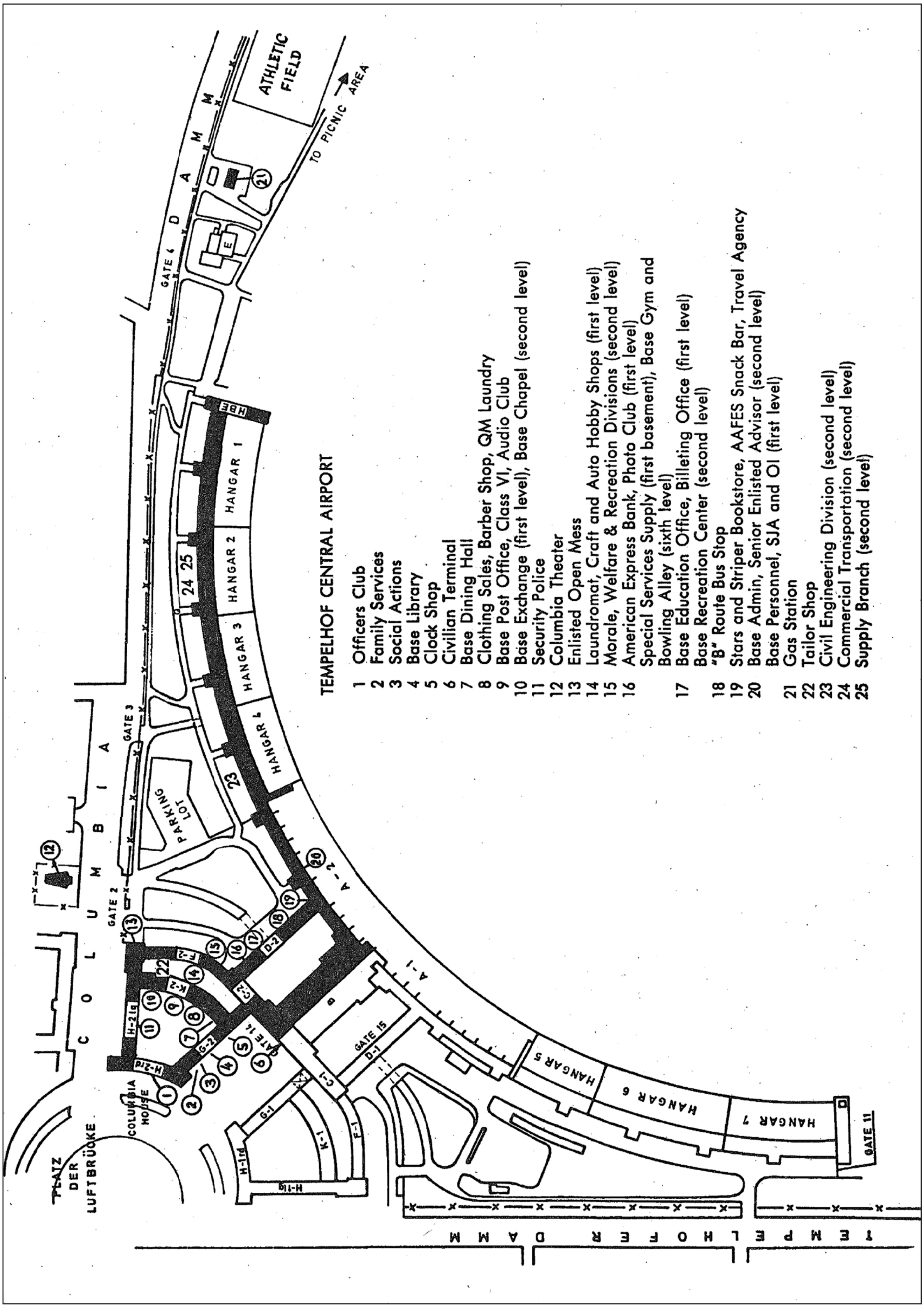
Authorized East Germans and East Berliners presumably can cross at any border points still open.

ORIGINAL CROSSING POINTS OF 13 AUGUST NOW CLOSED
1. Kopenhagenerstrasse
2. Wollankstrasse
4. Brunnenstrasse
7. Brandenburger Tor (Gate)
11. Puschkin Allee
12. Eisenstrasse
14. Rudowerstrasse

1961 map produced by the CIA showing the newly divided city of Berlin and the designated border (Berlin Wall) crossing points, including seven crossing points that remained on 13 August 1961 but were subsequently closed. (CIA)


COMMUNICATION ROUTES BETWEEN WEST GERMANY AND BERLIN
Kiel
Stralsund
Hamburg
Buechen
Schwanheide
Lauenburg
Horst
Bremen
Neuruppin
Prenzlau
SOVIET
POLAND
Wittenberge
Liebenwalde
Wriezen
Havel
Stendal
Rathenow
WEST BERLIN
EAST BERLIN
Limit of Polish Administration
Mittelland Canal
Vorsfelde
Oebisfelde
Hannover
Helmstedt
Marienborn
Magdeburg
ZONE
Jueterbog
Cottbus
Dessau
Elbe
FEDERAL
REPUBLIC
OF GERMANY
Walkenried
Ellrich
Halle
Kassel
Herleshausen
Wartha
Hoenebach
Gerstungen
Probstzella
Juchhoeh
Ludwigstadt
Gutenfuerst
Toepen
Hof
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Frankfurt
Main
Railroad
Autobahn
Road
Canal
Air Corridor
Control Points for Allied Traffic:
▲ Soviet
▲ Allied
Interzonal Border Crossing Points:
△ East
△ West
STATUTE MILES
0
100
KILOMETERS
0
100
32166
UNCLASSIFIED
Boundaries are not necessarily those recognized by the U.S. Government.

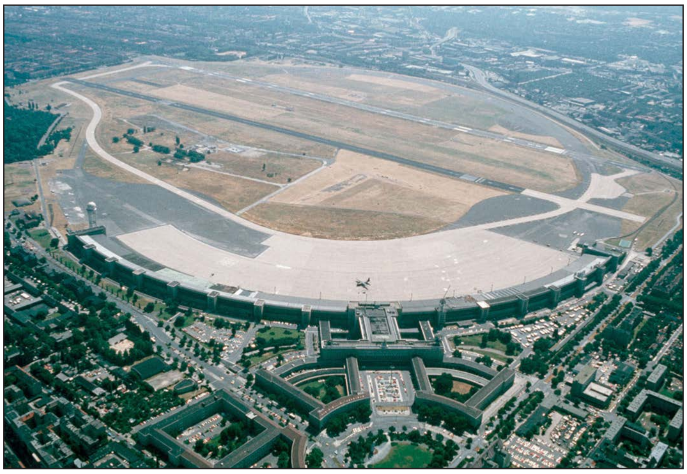
Map produced by the CIA in 1961 showing the main communications routes between West Germany and Berlin following the building of the Berlin Wall. It shows the motorway (autobahn), road, rail, and waterway (canal) routes to the city, and the three air corridors terminating in the Berlin Control Zone around the city itself. (CIA)


TEMPELHOF CENTRAL AIRPORT
1 Officers Club
2 Family Services
3 Social Actions
4 Base Library
5 Clock Shop
6 Civilian Terminal
7 Base Dining Hall
8 Clothing Sales, Barber Shop, QM Laundry
9 Base Post Office, Class VI, Audio Club
10 Base Exchange (first level), Base Chapel (second level)
11 Security Police
12 Columbia Theater
13 Enlisted Open Mess
14 Laundromat, Craft and Auto Hobby Shops (first level)
15 Morale, Welfare & Recreation Divisions (second level)
16 American Express Bank, Photo Club (first level) Special Services Supply (first basement), Base Gym and Bowling Alley (sixth level)
17 Base Education Office, Billeting Office (first level) Base Recreation Center (second level)
18 "B" Route Bus Stop
19 Stars and Stripes Bookstore, AAFES Snack Bar, Travel Agency
20 Base Admin, Senior Enlisted Advisor (second level) Base Personnel, SJA and OI (first level)
21 Gas Station
22 Tailor Shop
23 Civil Engineering Division (second level)
24 Commercial Transportation (second level)
25 Supply Branch (second level)
ATHLETIC FIELD
TO PICNIC AREA
COLUMBIA DAMM
GATE 4
GATE 3
GATE 2
GATE 15
GATE 16
GATE 11
PARKING LOT
HANGAR 1
HANGAR 2
HANGAR 3
HANGAR 4
HANGAR 5
HANGAR 6
HANGAR 7
HBE
PLATZ DER LUFTBRÜCKE
COLUMBIA HOUSE
TEMPELHOFER DAMM

Annotated plan of Tempelhof Central Airport (TCA). (Lutz Griesbach, guardbattalion.de)

then the Office of the High Commissioner of Germany (HICOG). Two months later it was redesignated Tempelhof Air Base.

The United States Air Force (USAF) was officially formed as a separate arm of the US military on 18 September 1947, with its European operations (United States Air Forces in Europe, USAFE) based at Wiesbaden in the American Zone of occupied Germany. During the transition, they had taken on responsibility for Tempelhof, establishing the 7350th Air Base Group to run it, and renaming it Tempelhof Air Force Base in July 1948. The USAF Air Transport Command (ATC) took on the transport role from EATS in December 1947, before being merged with the US Navy's Naval



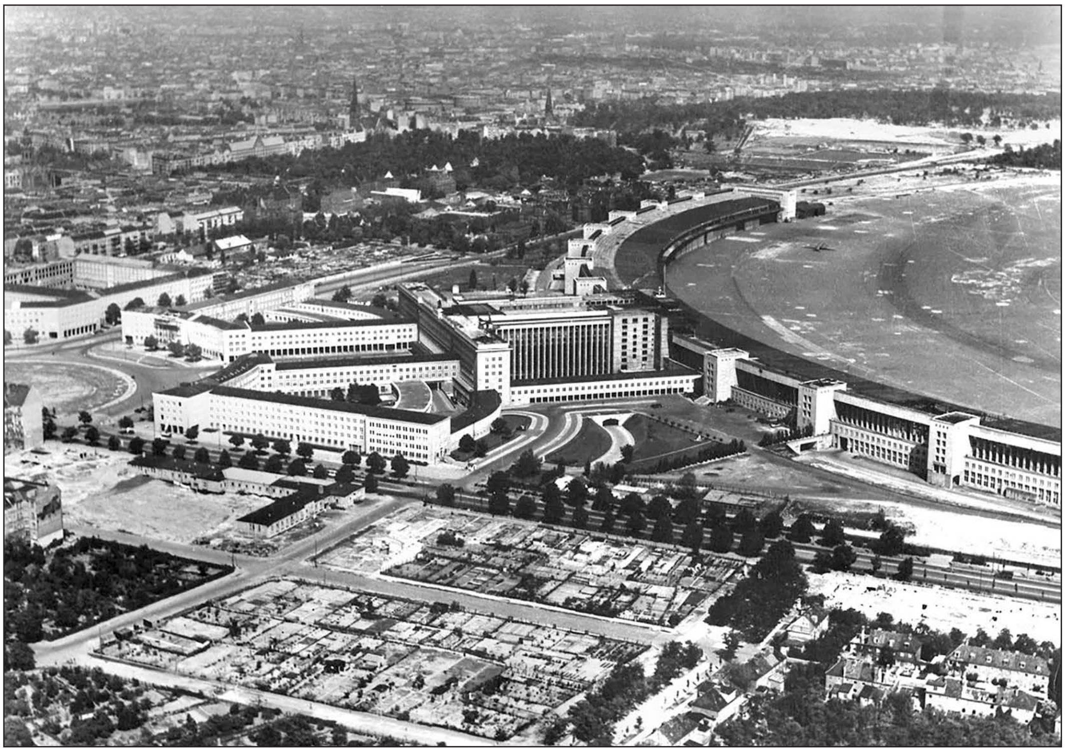
Impressive overhead shot of Tempelhof Central Airport showing Tempelhofer Feld, the runways, concrete apron, and curved terminal building, 1983. (US Army Berlin Brigade Aviation Detachment)

Air Transport Service (NATS) to create the Military Air Transport Service (MATS) in June 1948.

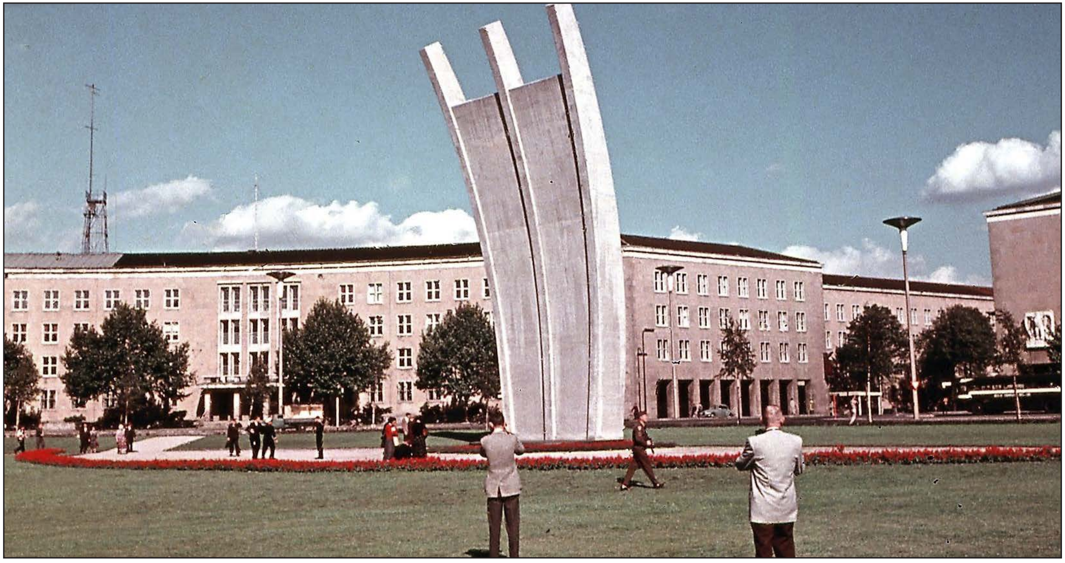
The 7350th Air Base Group and the MATS were about to be tested in the most challenging way possible. On 24 June 1948, the Soviets closed the road, rail, and waterway access to West Berlin in a plan to force the Allied powers to leave the city. The only way into West Berlin was by air, along the three air corridors that had been agreed at the end of the war. Rather than concede to Stalin's bullying, the West began a massive resupply operation by air, which became known as the Berlin Airlift. It was truly a logistical miracle, supplying everything a city of 2.2 million people needed (fuel, food, medicines etc.) by transport aircraft from distribution hubs in the 'Zone.' Tempelhof would become a major contributor to the airlift, receiving the majority of the 2.3 million tons of supplies flown into the city over the next 15 months. Before the war, aircraft took off and landed on grass, but once the Americans took over in 1945, they laid a 4,987ft (1,520m) runway made from PSP (Pierced Steel Planking) on rubber matting, which was more suitable for post-war aircraft. Once the airlift commenced, they needed a stronger surface to land on so built a second 5,750ft (1,753m) long runway made from PSP and PAP (Pierced Aluminium Planking) on asphalt and crushed rubble which was completed in September 1948. They immediately began a third, 6,150ft (1,875m) out of asphalt, which was completed in November 1948.

When Stalin realised that the West was not going to back down and their seemingly unlimited resources could continue the resupply indefinitely, he was forced to make an embarrassing climb-down and lift the blockade. The road, rail, and waterway links were reopened on 12 May 1949, but the Allies kept the flights going until October 1949 to build up the strategic reserves in the city. In 1951, the Berlin *Senat* unveiled a memorial to the 78 men who lost their lives during the airlift. The *Luftbrückendenkmal*, known locally as the 'Hunger Rake' or 'Hunger Claw', continues to stand on the Platz der Luftbrücke (Airlift Plaza), right in front of the terminal building at Tempelhof.[3]

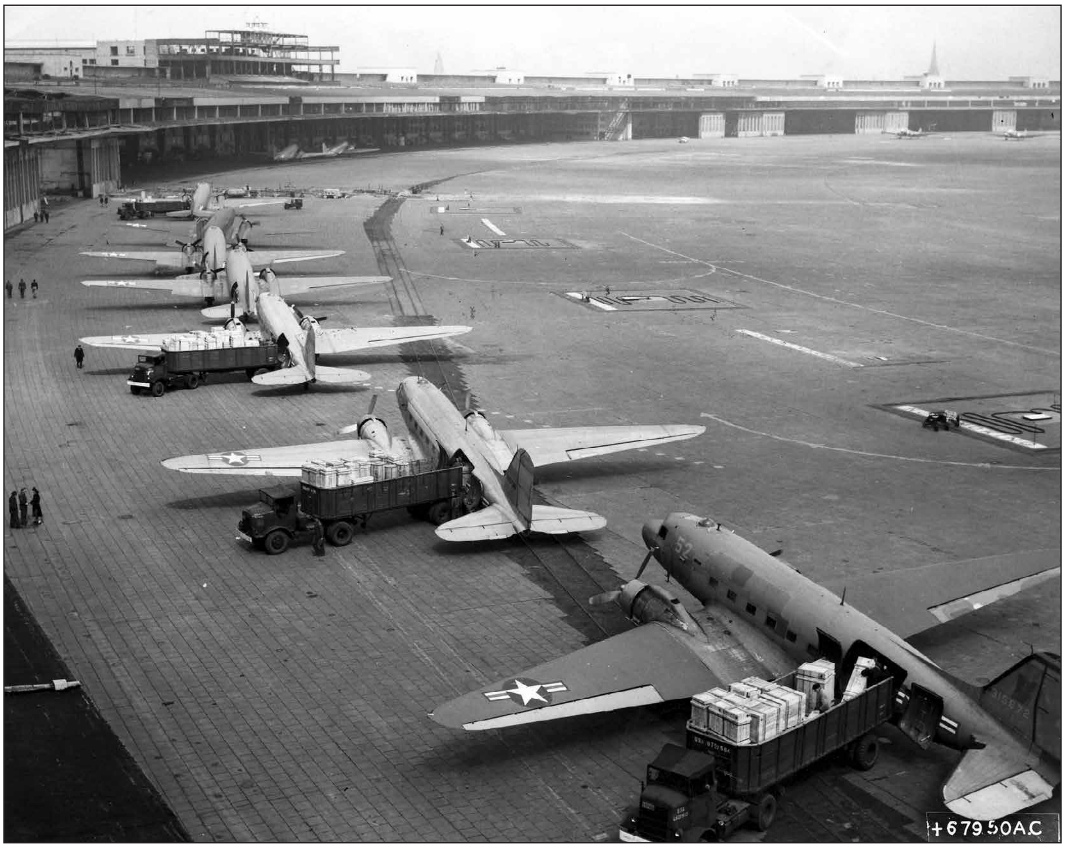
The main USAF unit at Templehof was the 7350th Air Base Group but it underwent several name changes over the years: 7350th Air Base Group



An aerial view of Tempelhof Air Base showing the curve of the terminal building and the apron. (Walter Elkins, usarmygermany.com)



The *Luftbrückendenkmal* at Tempelhof, 1954. (Edmund von Nordeck via R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)



USAF C-47 transport aircraft unloading at Tempelhof during the early part of the Berlin Airlift, 1948. (US National Archives)

(1948–1949); 7350th Base Complement Squadron (1949–1954); 7350th Air Base Squadron (1954–1958); 7350th Air Support Squadron (1958–1964); 7350th Support Group (1964–1973); and back to 7350th Air Base Group (1973–1993). The USAF 7350th Air Base Group at Tempelhof was finally deactivated on 29 January 1993.

As one would expect from a sizeable air base, the core unit was supported by numerous ancillary services including maintenance, engineering, and security plus the Berlin Brigade Aviation Detachment. One of the most important, however, was the 1946th Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron (1946 AACS). Their job was to provide air-to-ground/ground-to-air communications between aircraft departing from and arriving at Tempelhof, search and approach radars, ground-controlled approach, radio navigation beacons and air traffic control. They also ran the telephone system. They were really challenged during the Berlin Airlift where their workload increased exponentially – in April 1948, before the airlift started, they logged 7,738 separate radio contacts with aircraft arriving and departing Berlin airfields. In April 1949, at the peak of the operation, the number of contacts was over 127,000. A key service was providing ground-controlled approaches (GCA), where an operator on the ground talked an aircraft down over the radio using a powerful approach radar, which could detect both height and distance. This allowed aircraft to land in poor visibility allowing the airlift to continue in almost all weathers. To quote the AACS unit history: 'The AACS enabled planes to fly when birds walked.' Over the years their name changed: 1946th Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron (1948–1961), 1946th Communications Squadron (1961–1984), 1946th Information Systems Squadron (1984–1986), and back to 1946th Communications Squadron from 1986 until they handed over to civilian agencies in 1993 after US operations ended.[4]

In May 1950, civilian traffic began using the airport (now renamed Tempelhof Air Base) again, and in February 1958, it was renamed Tempelhof Central Airport (TCA) reflecting this new role, however, this was relatively short lived as all civil aviation was transferred to Berlin Tegel Airport in September 1975, and Tempelhof reverted to solely military traffic, which continued until the end of the Cold War. On the 1 July 1991, the facilities previously used by the Allies were handed over to the Berlin Airport Company and operated as a regular civilian airport until flight operations ceased on 31 October 2008. The future of this iconic building appears to be secure, and the site is being developed for creative industries, cultural events, leisure, and recreational purposes.

6

REFUGEES AND SPIES

Berlin may have been the spy capital of Europe, but it was also the refugee capital, with displaced persons, economic and political refugees being a constant presence and concern from 1945 to August 1961, and then again from 1989. By the end of the Second World War, millions of individuals had been displaced from their homes and communities by war, and many gravitated to the major cities in search of food, shelter and help with returning home. The map of Europe, however, had been irrevocably changed by the conflict, with huge amounts of territory changing hands several times, and much was now in the hands of the Soviet Union, who were imposing Stalin's iron will and establishing communist puppet governments, prompting many people to leave for a more benign regime. Borders were shifted in the negotiations that followed the war which displaced even more people (the whole of Poland's borders, for example, shifted westward taking over a huge swath of former German territory, and ethnic Germans living in the 'new' territory were forcibly evicted and sent west). Germans who had settled in Nazi conquered territory now occupied by Stalin were unceremoniously evicted and deported, forfeiting all their property and belongings. As the Nazi regime's *blitzkrieg* made its way across

Europe, it pressed many of the citizens of the occupied states into forced labour, transporting them in appalling conditions all over the Greater Reich as demanded by Hitler's war machine and as the war ebbed and flowed. It was the same for prisoners of war – Allied POWs released when the Germans surrendered, and Germans who were detained after hostilities ended. Those who survived slowly made their way home (sometimes years after the war had finished), by whatever means they could, and many were directed to Berlin, which was the main communications hub for central Europe. Finally, there were many individuals and families in the Soviet Zone of occupied Germany who did not relish life under Soviet occupation or subsequently in Walter Ulbricht's socialist paradise and chose to leave. For some, the reasons were political but for others it was economic – the DDR was stagnating while the Federal Republic (West Germany) appeared to be thriving.

All these reasons meant that there were thousands of vulnerable people arriving in the city, and they needed to be housed, fed, and policed. For the first few years of the war, the primary focus of the security forces was DPs, returning soldiers and POWs, and it was a major challenge for the Allied military governments to corral these individuals, protect them from racketeers and black market predators, and move them on to their eventual destination. Amongst this transient population were many former Nazis and war criminals and these needed to be filtered out and brought to justice.

Even before hostilities had ceased, people from eastern Germany began to move westwards with the knowledge that they would soon be living under Soviet control. In the years that followed there was a steady flow of refugees to the Federal Republic of Germany, so the Bonn government set up refugee reception centres and transit camps at Uelzen in Lower Saxony, Giessen in Hesse, and a small centre at Charlottenburg in the British Sector of Berlin. Between 1949 and the end of 1952, over 350,000 people were registered at these centres in the Federal Republic, with an additional 190,000 in West Berlin. The East German authorities called theses defectors *Republikflüchtlinge* ('those who flee the Republic'), and their numbers kept growing. By 1952, around 3,500 East Germans were crossing the very porous border into West Germany every week (equivalent to 182,000 a year) and this was creating a major problem for Walter Ulbricht's government. Not only was it embarrassing for his communist regime, but these were mostly young, skilled, military-age citizens which they could not afford to lose, so in May 1952, they closed the 1,400km (870 miles) long Inner German Border (IGB) from the Baltic to the Czechoslovak border. It was the first step towards creating the infamous 'Berlin' Wall. Although Berlin is 100 miles *inside* the former DDR, the East Germans took the opportunity to ring the outskirts of the Western sectors of the city with barbed wire and fences, stopping any defections from Berlin's hinterland. The IGB took time to seal, and refugees still made it across, but gradually numbers reaching the West by this means dwindled, however, the border between East and West Berlin remained open. Travel *within* East Germany was not restricted, so it was possible for an East German citizen to travel to their capital city and either stroll across the sector border to West Berlin or catch the S-Bahn, which crossed in and out of Western sectors and hop off at a West Berlin station. Berlin quickly became a 'funnel' or 'trapdoor' for those wishing to escape the DDR with a huge increase in arrivals, while Uelzen's and Giessen's numbers plummeted. In August 1953, following the spike in refugee numbers after the June 1953 worker's uprising in East Berlin, the Federal authorities opened a new emergency refugee centre (*Notaufnahmelager*) on Marienfelder Allee in Marienfelde in the south American Sector, close to the S-Bahn links and not too far from Tempelhof Airport.

Along with reception and medical facilities, the centre had temporary housing for around 2,000 refugees while they were waiting to be processed but it was soon swamped and had to expand. Once processed, the refugees were flown out of the city to begin a new life in the West – it was too risky to move them by road or rail. Between 1952 and 1961, an average of 4,319 people were leaving the DDR by choice a week, mostly via Marienfelde. On 13 August 1961, this all changed when the East Germans closed the inter-sector borders between East and West Berlin, constructing the infamous Berlin Wall. The numbers of refugees plunged overnight, from an average of 3,981 a week between January and August 1961 to just 411 a week in 1962. Refugee numbers would remain low for the next 27 years, with the lowest year being 1983, when only 11,343 people made it across to the West (about 218 a week) along the whole of IGB and the inner and outer Berlin Wall combined. In the last two months of 1989, however, after the Wall came down, an average of 6,613 people a week requested asylum in the FRG, and this continued in 1990 until reunification in October at the

NOTAUFNAHMELAGER

Refugees queue at the Marienfelde Emergency Reception Center in West Berlin, late 1950s. (Albert Grandolini Collection) rate of 4,808 a week. After reunification, the authorities stopped counting and in July 1990, the reception centre for emigrants from the former DDR was discontinued, although the centre continued to process immigrants from other countries, such as Poland and Russia. In 2010, the facility was closed as immigration had dropped to a level that normal channels could handle but opened again soon after as the conflicts in Afghanistan, Syria and the North Caucasus prompted a new wave of migration and refugees seeking asylum. It is currently used as temporary housing for these desperate people.

Between 1949 and 1990, around 3.9 million people left the GDR for the Federal Republic out of a population of about 17 million, with 1.35 million passing through the refugee centre at Marienfelde in West Berlin. When people arrived at the centre, they went through identity and medical checks, and if they had escaped with no possessions (which was often the case), they were re-equipped with a basic wardrobe and necessities. The authorities (both Federal and Western occupation) then had to decide what to do with them.

The screening process was initially handled by the 'Registration Office for Foreigners' based at a facility on Fontanestraße on the edge of Grunewald, but they expanded in 1959 to a large, unmarked villa compound on the corner of Sven-Hedin Straße (numbers 9 and 11) and Karl Hofer Straße, not too far from Clayallee. In 1960, they became the US Army Berlin-Joint Allied Refugee Operations Center, JAROC-DSCI-USAB, or just JAROC (B), and came under the control of the DCSI (Deputy Chief of Staff Intelligence) of the Berlin Command. Staff consisted mainly of members of the military intelligence community: the 18th Military Intelligence Battalion; the 513th Intelligence Group; the 66th Military Intelligence Group; the 766th Military Intelligence Detachment; and the specialist military intelligence TAREX-Det (Target Exploitation Detachment), the mix depending on the year concerned, supported by German civilian employees and with the constant hovering presence of the CIA. Many of the staff spoke several languages, which helped with the cosmopolitan nature of the task. The DDR viewed the JAROC (B) and Marienfelde operations as hostile, and deliberately targeted staff with threats and harassment. Some of the staff therefore lived on site at the villa, some at Marienfelde and some in barracks. None were allowed to have any connections to the Eastern bloc and visits to East Berlin and other Eastern bloc states were prohibited. Until the mid-1980s, employees were even prohibited from using the road and rail transit routes between West Berlin and the Federal Republic and had to be flown in and out. Almost all employees had aliases for their own safety.

The JAROC (B) team undertook the initial screening process at Marienfelde, and any persons of interest (under suspicion or as a potential source of intelligence) were quickly removed from the Marienfelde 'stream' and transferred to Sven-Hedin Straße for further interrogation. High-profile defectors, military defectors and escapees would be taken directly to this facility, bypassing the Marienfelde process altogether. Officers would investigate the refugee's backgrounds, family members, political affiliations with the hope of identifying any former Nazis, criminals, or Soviet bloc spies. The officers would also try to elicit intelligence about daily life in the East, the East German and Warsaw Pact military (many former DDR soldiers defected), scientific and industrial infrastructure and/or research, and about the East German government. They were particularly interested in Soviet ORBAT material, military technology (especially radar and rocketry), airfields, troop movements and the morale of the troops and the TAREX-Det personnel led this type of enquiry. 'Guests' were plied with endless coffee, Western cigarettes, Coca Cola, and alcohol, to help 'lubricate' the debriefs. Large scale maps, charts, photos, and reports, much supplied by the Allied Military Liaison Missions, were on hand to be referred to by the interrogators.

While they were being investigated, the persons of interest or defectors were housed in a hostel on nearby Mexicoplatz or kept under guard at the villa if deemed a flight or assassination risk. Some cooperative defectors, especially those from the DDR military or police, would be paid to appear on RIAS (Radio In the American Sector), as part of the ongoing US psyops and propaganda effort. RIAS, as well as AFN, the American garrison broadcaster, was widely listened to in East Berlin. There were also many secret safe houses spread around the city where assets could be interrogated or courted out of sight of the opposition, be that East Germany, the Soviet Union or rival Western intelligence agencies.[1]

High-value and therefore high-risk defectors, especially from the Soviet or East German military or intelligence services, were quickly transferred to the Defector Reception Center (DRC) at Camp King, a facility in Oberursel near Frankfurt in West Germany. Once the Berlin Wall went up in August 1961, the number of useful refugees/defectors dwindled, and most of the safe houses were given up, but the Sven-Hedin Straße villa remained in the hands of JAROC (B) until the Americans left Berlin in 1994, when it was taken on by the *Bundesnachrichtendienst*, the West German foreign intelligence service.

With so many people passing through Marienfelde, the HVA (*Hauptverwaltung Aufklärung*, the East German Foreign Intelligence Service) was able to sneak in numerous agents into West Germany, who were able to infiltrate all levels of politics, government, and business. It is also safe to assume that the HVA penetrated Marienfelde itself, but the true extent is unknown. The most famous mole was Günter Guillaume, who came across as a *Republikflüchtlinge* in 1956 and rose through the ranks of the SPD to become a close aide to Willy Brandt, the ex-mayor of Berlin and German Chancellor. In April 1974, Guillaume was unmasked as an East German spy and sentenced to 13 years in prison. Brandt, who had been Chancellor since 1969, did not survive the scandal and resigned the following month, citing his own 'political negligence.'

In support of the intelligence extraction efforts through these various channels, there were a variety of specialist units who would be brought in by the screening staff or interrogation teams. Of particular interest was ORBAT and technical information on radar, command and control, weapons systems, vehicles etc, which complemented intelligence received from the USMLM and other sources and contributed to the overall intelligence jigsaw. A special team intelligence collection team from the 513th Military Intelligence Group was joined by the US Army Technical Intelligence Center, Field Team No. 3 (1962–1994), the US Army Evaluation Unit (1962–1994), the Quartermaster Material Study Detachment (1962–1970), and the Foreign Technology Division (1970–1992), all collecting, collating, logging, filing, analysing, and disseminating their own slice of the intelligence pie. During the unprecedently busy period following the opening of the Wall in November 1989, JAROC personnel were supplemented with language qualified 'operators' from PSSE-B (the successor to Detachment A). There were also various liaison teams coordinating intelligence activity between the Berlin Command, USAREUR and other commands within the US Army. Although Berlin was a long way from the sea, there were also representatives of Naval Intelligence (Naval Intelligence Command, Task Unit 168.4.1, 1958–1994) and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) in the city. The 7880th Military Intelligence Detachment worked at the Berlin Central Post Office surreptitiously opening all letters and packages going to and from the Soviet Union and all Eastern European countries that entered the postal system. This seemingly low-level task yielded surprisingly useful intelligence: on the locations of the German scientists and engineers working on the Soviet nuclear and ballistic missile programmes at secret installations deep inside the USSR; details of the illicit trade in embargoed high-tech items and strategic commodities between West German companies and Eastern Europe; and detailed ORBAT information. The mundane information included in correspondence gave valuable insight into life behind the Iron Curtain including morale, shortages, the housing situation, and police repression. Again, all contributing to the intelligence jigsaw.[2]

7

GARRISON LIFE

Berlin was a unique and sought-after posting for many, offering an excellent social life, great sports and leisure facilities, with the added frisson of being surrounded by hostile Soviet and East German troops. Apart from these distractions garrison life was similar to most foreign postings, with the usual hierarchies, structures, spit and polish and daily routines. In this city of intrigues, however, normal military activity often had an ulterior motive.

Parades

All the Allied occupying powers liked to put on a good show. Partly for the age-old military logic of keeping troops busy by polishing things, partly for the benefit of the citizens of West Berlin to show what firepower was in place to keep them safe, but mostly for the benefit of the Soviets and East Germans observers as part of the ongoing game of brinksmanship and deterrent. The first parades took place soon after the Allies moved into the city in July 1945 where the focus was on celebration of victory, inter-Allied unity, and subjugation of the vanquished German citizens. While the unity (at least as far as the Soviets were concerned) did not last very long, the parades continued right up until 12 July 1994 when US President Bill Clinton took the salute at the decommissioning ceremony at the Platz des 4. Juli at McNair Barracks. The US garrison participated in the annual Allied Armed Forces Day parade which took place along the Straße des 17. Juni in Berlin-Tiergarten between the Victory Column (*Siegessäule*) and the Brandenburg Gate, past, ironically, the Soviet War Memorial, which was guarded by Soviet troops. They also hosted a lavish 4th of July parade at the aptly named Platz des 4. Juli in front of McNair Barracks. The US garrison also ran regular open days/family days where all their kit was on display. These were often held on the massive apron at Tempelhof airbase. The deterrent value of these events was considered so important that they formed part of the Berlin Brigade Operation Plan (OPLAN), which detailed every aspect of military operations in West Berlin, both defensive and offensive.

Soviet officers attend the US Army Berlin Brigade's 4th of July parade at McNair Barracks, 4 July 1989. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

Whatever the occasion, the parade was a good opportunity to show off the latest military equipment, albeit polished and buffed to a shiny finish. A typical parade would demonstrate to the crowds (and to the Soviet/East German observers) all the very latest kit deployed with the Allied forces, a veritable catalogue of lethal military hardware, evolving over the years. Depending on the state of East/West relations at the time, it was common to find several Soviet observers in the grandstands at parades. Normally escorted by members of the US Military Liaison Mission (USMLM) who would also act as interpreters, the Soviets, almost certainly members of the GRU but wearing Soviet Army uniforms, would get to observe the hardware on display, taking photos and asking questions of their hosts. At times of international crisis, such as after the murder of USMLM Major Arthur D. Nicholson by a Soviet sentry in 1985, such liaison activity was curtailed, but as can be seen in photographs, by July 1989 the liaison had recommenced.

Open Days

Open days were another chance to show off the equipment belonging to the Berlin Brigade, and a chance to get up close and personal with the latest hardware. It was not all tanks and armoured personnel carriers, though, the more mundane was also put on show to demonstrate the depth of infrastructure behind the fighting troops.

Soldiers of the 6th Infantry, US Army Berlin Brigade parade along the Straße des 17. Juni at the Allied Forces Day Parade, 15 May 1982. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

For example, an army marches on its stomach, so catering in the field is a vital aspect of mobile operations. The 1989 open day at Tempelhof showed one of the Brigade's MKT mobile kitchens. The MKT was an expandable self-contained mobile kitchen facility (burner units, ranges, griddles etc) for preparation of A and B rations for approximately 250 personnel and tray-pack rations (T-rations) for approximately 300 personnel and could operate in all weather conditions. It was mounted on a trailer chassis that could be towed by a truck, and four trained food service specialists could set up the MKT for operation in approximately 30 minutes.

It should be noted that not all the spectators at these various parades or open days were pro-American or pro-occupation. Although most West Berliners recognised and were grateful for the protection provided by the Allied forces, a vocal minority of peace protesters or those opposed to the continued 'occupation' regularly protested their presence. While these demonstrations may have been irritating to the event organisers, the participants and most of the spectators, their ability to protest freely represented the key difference between East and West.

Spandau Prison Guard Duty

Soldiers of the Berlin Brigade were assigned guard duty in month long rotations at Spandau Prison located in the British Sector of the city. Beginning in 1947 and continuing for 40 years, elements of the Berlin Brigade took turns along with elements from the British Berlin Infantry Brigade, French Forces Françaises à Berlin and Soviet Forces in Berlin guarding prisoners at the prison housing prisoners convicted at the International Military Tribunal at Nürnberg (Nuremberg) following the end of the Second World War. This mission would end when the last prisoner, Rudolf Hess, the former Deputy Führer of the Nazi Third Reich died in custody at Spandau on 17 August 1987 at the age of 93.

Spandau prison was a very sinister place, built in 1876 as a military prison, and later used to imprison dissidents under Hitler. It was taken over by the Soviets in May 1945, and then handed over to the British, with the former Nazis arriving on 18 July 1947. Guard duty rotated monthly between the US, the French, the British and the Soviet garrisons with a guard detail comprising an officer and around 30 men changing over every month in a formal handover ceremony.

Table 5: Spandau Prison Guard Roster

French	British	American	Soviet
February	January	April	March
June	May	August	July
October	September	December	November

The guards were there to keep the inmates safe from vigilantes wanting to exact revenge, from neo-Nazi sympathisers, and to stop the prisoners from escaping. As well as patrolling the wings and grounds, sentries manned six observation towers along the perimeter walls. Because the prison was located right next to Smuts Barracks which housed the British Berlin Infantry Brigade Armoured Squadron, the Soviets used their monthly slots to take a close look at the activities in the barracks. The prison was funded by the Federal republic of Germany through the occupation budget and the budget of the justice department in West Berlin.

There were only seven inmates in the post-war period: Erich Raeder, Karl Dönitz, Konstantin von Neurath, Walther Funk, Baldur von Schirach, and Albert Speer, all high-level Nazi politicians, military officers, and bureaucrats. By 1966, all had been released apart from Rudolf Hess, Hitler's deputy who had been arrested by the British in 1941 after making an unauthorised flight to Scotland where he hoped to negotiate a peace with Great Britain. At the trial, Hess received a life sentence, which the Soviets insisted he serve, despite pleas from the Western Allies that he be released on humanitarian grounds. Spandau prisoner No 7, as Hess was known by his gaolers, committed suicide on 17 August 1987 at the age of 93. Spandau prison was quickly demolished to avoid it becoming a neo-Nazi shrine and the rubble was transported up to the Baltic coast and dumped in the North Sea. A NAAFI shopping centre was built on the site, which subsequently became a civilian supermarket.[1]

La Belle Discotheque Bombing

In the early hours of 5 April 1986, a nail bomb exploded in a crowded nightclub in the Friedenau district of West Berlin. The blast at La Belle Discotheque on Hauptstraße in Schöneberg killed an American serviceman (Sgt. Kenneth T. Ford) and a Turkish woman (Nermin Hannay) instantly, and fatally wounded another US soldier (SSgt. James E. Goins). A further 230 people were injured, including more than 50 American servicemen who regularly attended the club. During the days preceding the bombing at the La Belle Discotheque, US intelligence sources had determined through SIGINT intercepts that there was a high probability of a terrorist act in West Berlin.

A column of M60A3 main battle tanks of Company F, 40th Armor Regiment of the Berlin Brigade at the 1989 Allied Forces Day Parade along the Straße des 17. Juni in Berlin-Tiergarten, 18 June 1989. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

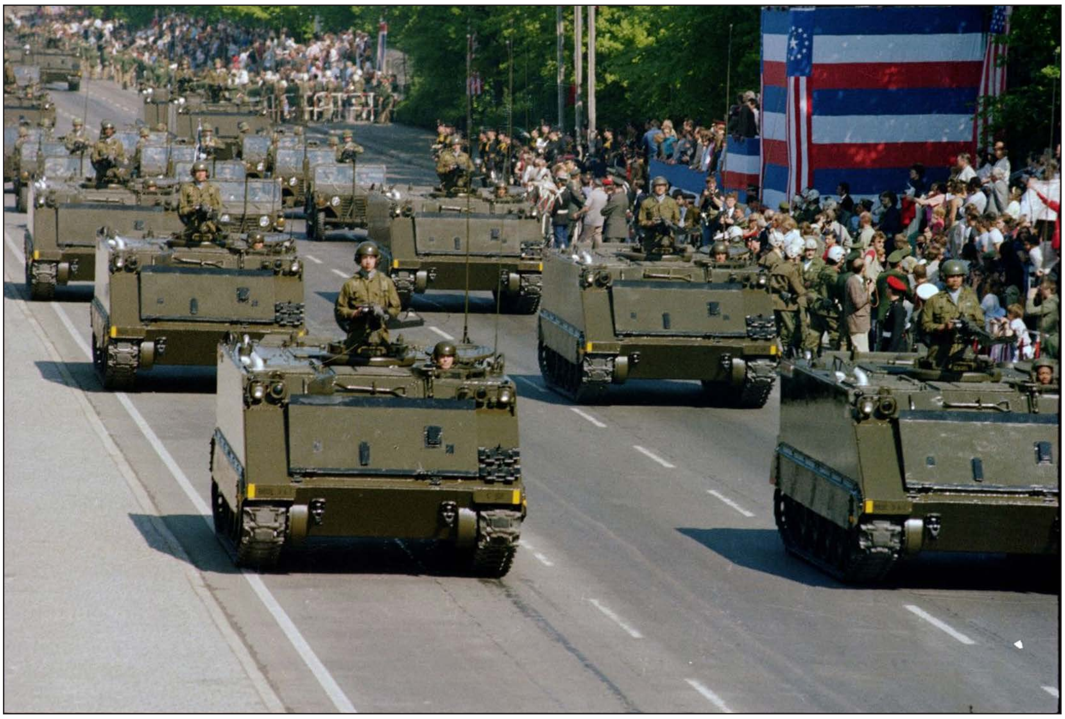
A group of M109A2 self-propelled 155mm howitzers of E Battery, 320th Field Artillery, US Army Berlin Brigade, at the 1989 Allied Forces Day Parade along the Straße des 17. Juni in Berlin-Tiergarten, 18 June 1989. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

For this reason, security around military installations was substantially increased. US officials also decided to take the additional step of increasing security around soft targets, such as civilian establishments frequented by US service members. Military Police began checking local establishments and were on their way to the La Belle when the bomb exploded.

Enquiries quickly pointed to a Libyan connection, confirmed by SIGINT intercepts between the Libyan People's Bureau (Embassy) in East Berlin and Tripoli in which Libyan leader Colonel Moammar Gadhafi (Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhāfī) was informed that 'something was being planned that would make him happy.' Following the bombing, they updated him, stating the precise time of the discotheque explosion. Nine days later on the 14 April, US President Ronald Reagan unleashed Operation ELDORADO CANYON, a series of airstrikes against Libya in retaliation for a series of terrorist outrages linked to Gadhafi. A veritable aerial armada of warplanes was assembled to strike at the heart of his regime: F-111Fs from the 48th Tactical Wing, USAF out of RAF Lakenheath; EF-111A 'Ravens' from the 42nd Electronic Combat Group at Upper Heyford; KC-10 and KC-135 tankers of the 306th Strategic Wing out of Mildenhall; carrier-borne A-6Es and A-7Es from USS *America* and USS *Coral Sea* of the US Sixth Fleet with F-14s for protection and F/A-18Cs and an EA-6B for strike support. The French and Spanish governments refused to allow the UK-based aircraft to traverse their airspace, so the aircraft had to go around, crossing the Bay of Biscay, through the Straits of Gibraltar, across the Mediterranean to hit their targets in and around Tripoli. Gadhafi's headquarters and residences were hit, as were Tripoli Airport, various military barracks, and terrorist training camps. Gadhafi survived, although his adopted daughter was killed. One F-111 was lost to a surface-to-air missile.[2]

After this incident, soldiers of the Berlin Brigade were forbidden by their superiors to visit discos in West Berlin for over a year, while Army clubs admitted only military personnel.

On Memorial Day 1986 (26 May), Major General John H. Mitchell, the US Commandant in Berlin, presented 37 soldiers injured in the La Belle Discotheque bombing with Purple Hearts. This was a controversial move because until 1984, the Purple Heart was *only* awarded for combat injuries or deaths, while the La Belle casualties were out having a good time. However, in February 1984, responding to the rise in international terrorist action that often targeted US service personnel, US President Reagan signed an

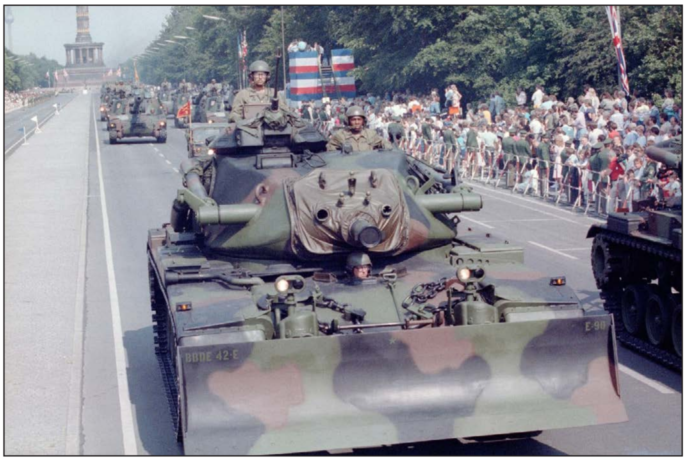


M113A2 armoured personnel carriers of the 6th Infantry, US Army Berlin Brigade, at the 1982 Allied Forces Day Parade along the Straße des 17. Juni in Berlin-Tiergarten, 15 May 1982. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

Executive Order extending the criteria for receiving a Purple Heart to those injured or killed by terrorist action.[3] SSgt. James E. Goins had already received his Purple Heart, pinned to the pillow of his hospital bed by General Glenn K. Otis, CINCUSAREUR, at the end of April, but would succumb to his injuries on 7 June 1986.[4]

When the *Stasi* archives became available post-reunification, investigators identified several suspects, some of whom were eventually convicted, but also the role the *Stasi* played in sponsoring state terrorism. The East German authorities had long been turning a blind eye to the smuggling of arms through diplomatic channels and it was this route that allowed the terrorists to smuggle the explosives into East Berlin. One of the terrorist gang members was an Unofficial Collaborator (*Inoffizieller Mitarbeiter*, IM) for Main Division XXII of the *Stasi*, who were tipped off about the bomb plot at least six days in advance, but still allowed it to go ahead.[5]

The deaths of Sgt. Ford and SSgt. Goins were not the only casualties suffered by the US garrison in Berlin during the Cold War. Major Arthur D. Nicholson from the US Military Liaison Mission was shot and killed by a Soviet guard in 1985.

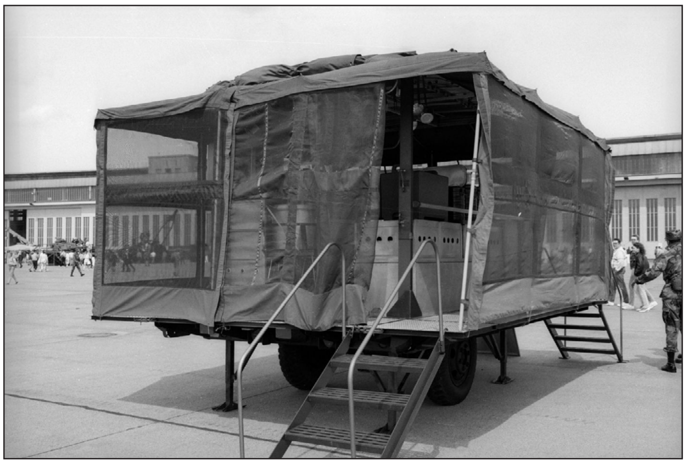


An M728 Combat Engineer Vehicle of the 42nd Engineer Company, US Army Berlin Brigade, at the 1989 Allied Forces Day Parade along the Straße des 17. Juni in Berlin-Tiergarten, 18 June 1989. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

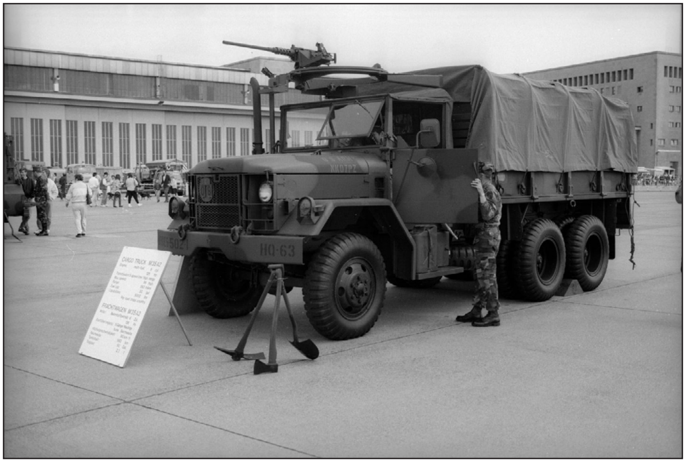
Presidential Visits

On 26 June 1963, US President John F. Kennedy delivered his famous '*Ich bin ein Berliner*' speech at Rudolf-Wilde-Platz in front of the Rathaus Schöneberg, the seat of the West Berlin *Senat*. It was renamed John F.-Kennedy-Platz on 25 November 1963, three days after his assassination.

On 12 June 1987, US President Ronald Reagan, known as the 'Great Communicator', delivered a powerful piece of theatre that has become as synonymous with the history of Cold War Berlin as

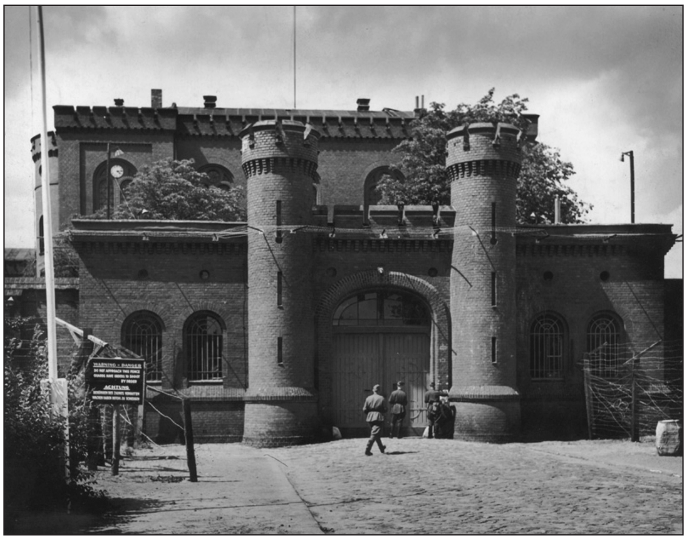


An MKT-75 mobile kitchen trailer of the US Army Berlin Brigade on display at an open day at Tempelhof Air Base, 13–14 May 1989. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum

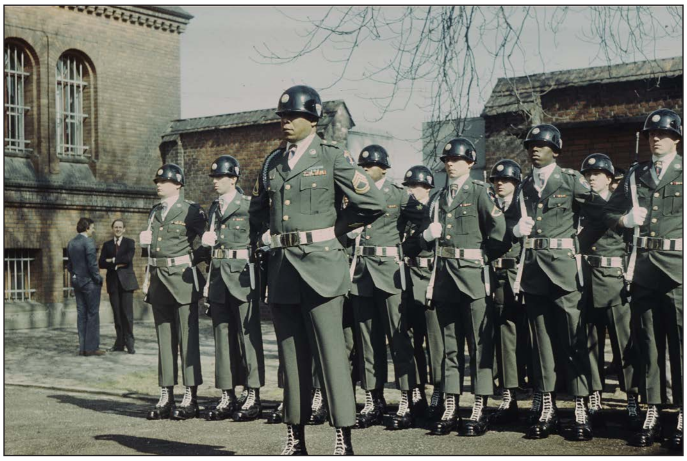


An M35A2 truck of the US Army Berlin Brigade, typically used to tow the MKT-75 trailer, on display at an open day at Tempelhof Air Base, 13-14 May 1989. See colour section for further information. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

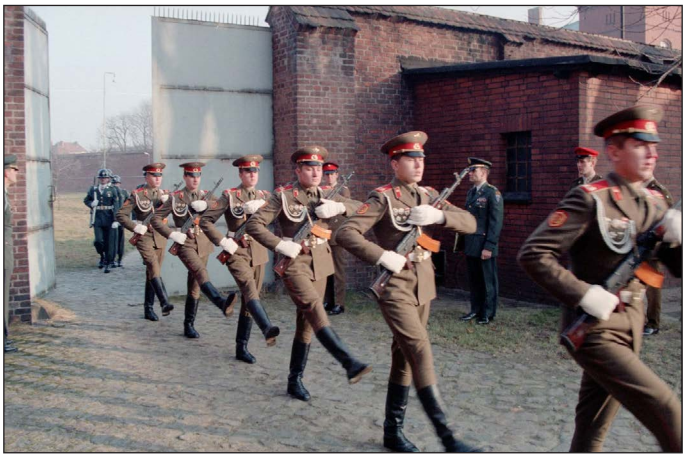
JFK's speech almost 24 years previously. As part of the celebrations for the 750th anniversary of the founding of Berlin, Reagan paid a lightning visit to the city on his way back from an economic summit in Italy and delivered a combative speech, much addressed directly at Soviet leader Gorbachev, with the iconic Brandenburg Gate as a backdrop and the equally iconic Soviet War Memorial a hundred



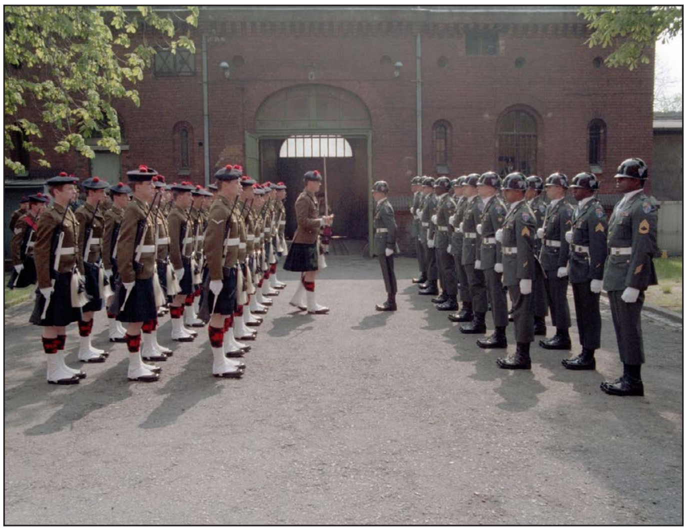
Spandau Prison main gate, 1950s. (US National Archives)



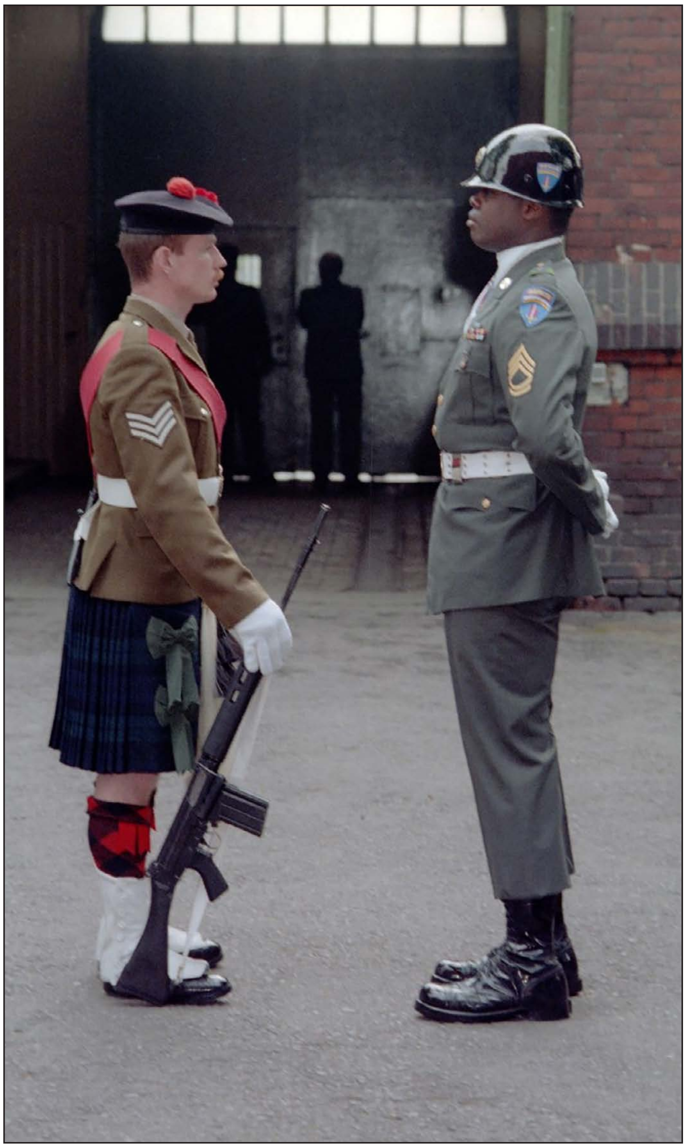
Soldiers of the 6th Infantry, Berlin Brigade at the changing of the guard, Spandau Prison, 1 April 1983. (US National Archives)



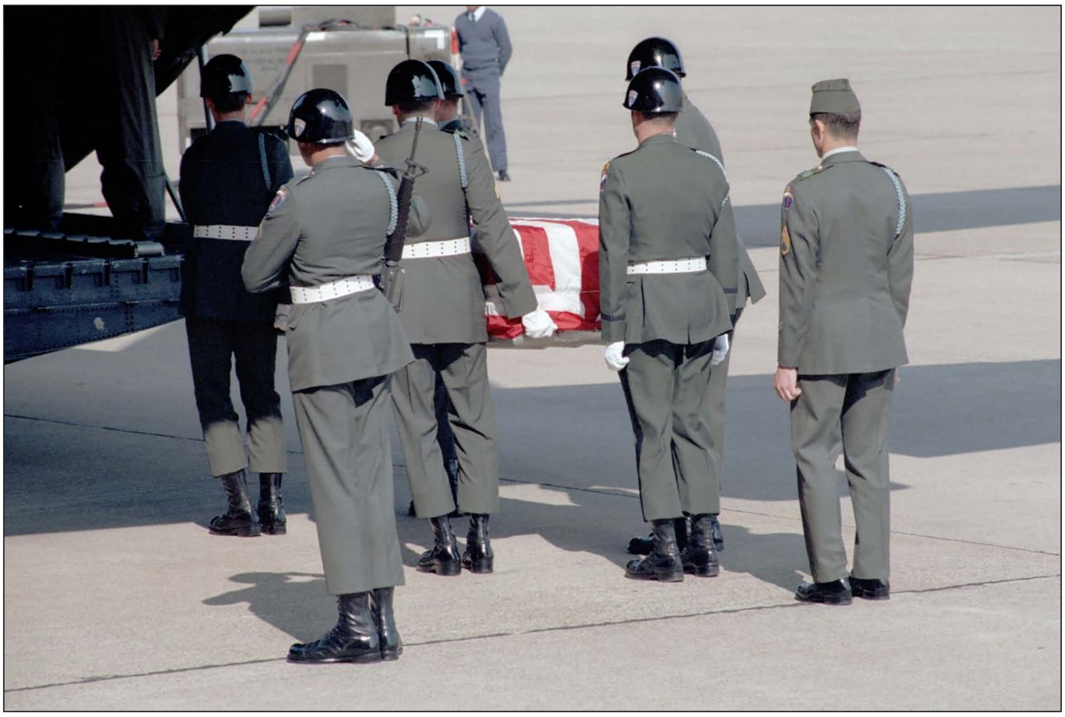
Changing of the guard at the Allied War Crimes Prison Berlin-Spandau. The Soviet guard team march through the main gate, with a squad of the 502nd Infantry Regiment of the US Army Berlin Brigade behind it, 1 December 1984. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)



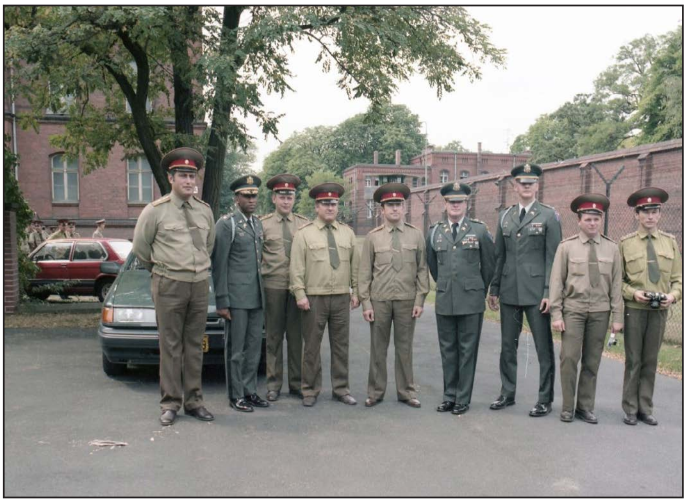
Changing of the guard at the Allied War Crimes Prison Berlin-Spandau: The 502nd Infantry Regiment of the US Berlin Brigade hands over to the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) of the British Army's Berlin Infantry Brigade, 1 May 1987. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)



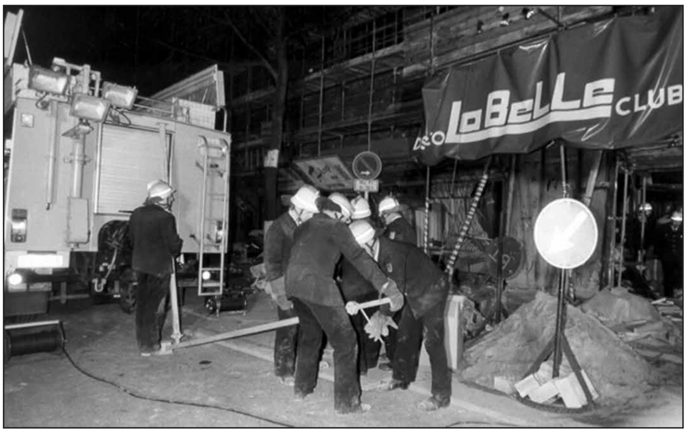
Sergeants from the 502nd Infantry Regiment, US Berlin Brigade hands and the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) of the British Army's Berlin Infantry Brigade at the Allied War Crimes Prison Berlin-Spandau, 1 May 1987. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum) yards or so down the road. The speech implored General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev to 'open this gate' and 'tear down this wall' and has been credited with sparking the fuse of the protest movement that eventually brought the Wall down, 29 months later. These key lines almost never made it to the speech, with the State Department claiming they were too provocative, but Reagan overruled them and delivered an extremely powerful message. Whether it heralded the beginning of the end of the Wall or not, it certainly reflected the zeitgeist of the moment and has become part of Berlin's folklore.



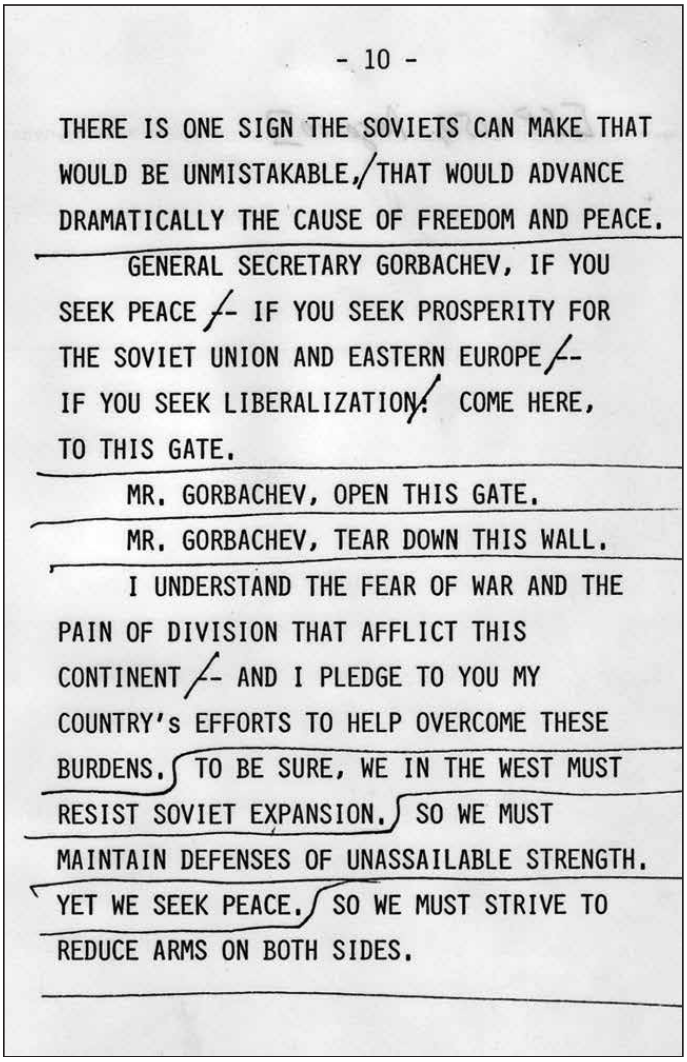
Repatriation ceremony at Berlin Templehof Airport for Staff Sergeant James E. Goins, victim of the bombing at the La Belle Discotheque in Berlin-Friedenau, 8 June 1986. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)



US and Soviet officers pose for a group photo at the Changing of the Guard ceremony at the Allied War Crimes Prison Berlin-Spandau, 1 August 1986. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)



West Berlin firefighters outside the wreckage of the La Belle Discotheque in Berlin-Friedenau, 6 April 1986. (West Berlin Fire Service)

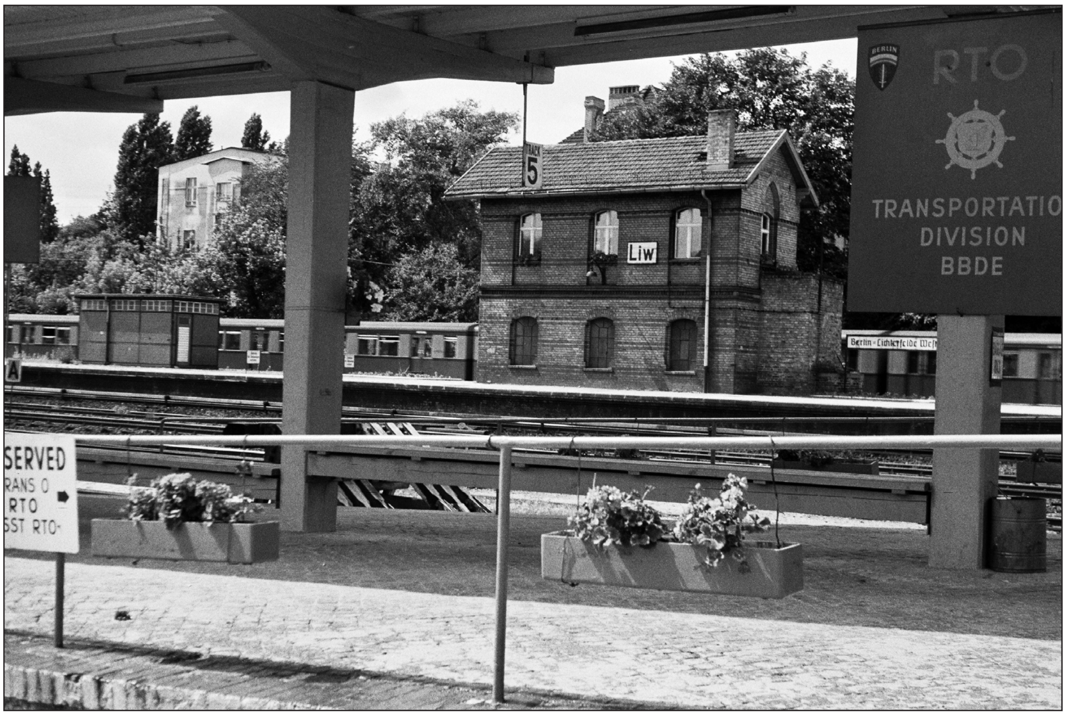


- 10 -

THERE IS ONE SIGN THE SOVIETS CAN MAKE THAT
WOULD BE UNMISTAKABLE,/THAT WOULD ADVANCE
DRAMATICALLY THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM AND PEACE.
GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV, IF YOU
SEEK PEACE -- IF YOU SEEK PROSPERITY FOR
THE SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE --
IF YOU SEEK LIBERALIZATION: COME HERE,
TO THIS GATE.
MR. GORBACHEV, OPEN THIS GATE.
MR. GORBACHEV, TEAR DOWN THIS WALL.
I UNDERSTAND THE FEAR OF WAR AND THE
PAIN OF DIVISION THAT AFFLICT THIS
CONTINENT -- AND I PLEDGE TO YOU MY
COUNTRY's EFFORTS TO HELP OVERCOME THESE
BURDENS. TO BE SURE, WE IN THE WEST MUST
RESIST SOVIET EXPANSION. SO WE MUST
MAINTAIN DEFENSES OF UNASSAILABLE STRENGTH.
YET WE SEEK PEACE. SO WE MUST STRIVE TO
REDUCE ARMS ON BOTH SIDES.

A page from the speaking copy that US President Ronald Reagan used in his famous 'Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!' speech in front of the Brandenburg Gate, West Berlin, 12 June 1987. (Ronald Reagan Library)

US President Ronald Reagan delivers his famous 'Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!' speech in front of the Brandenburg Gate, West Berlin, 12 June 1987. (US National Archives)



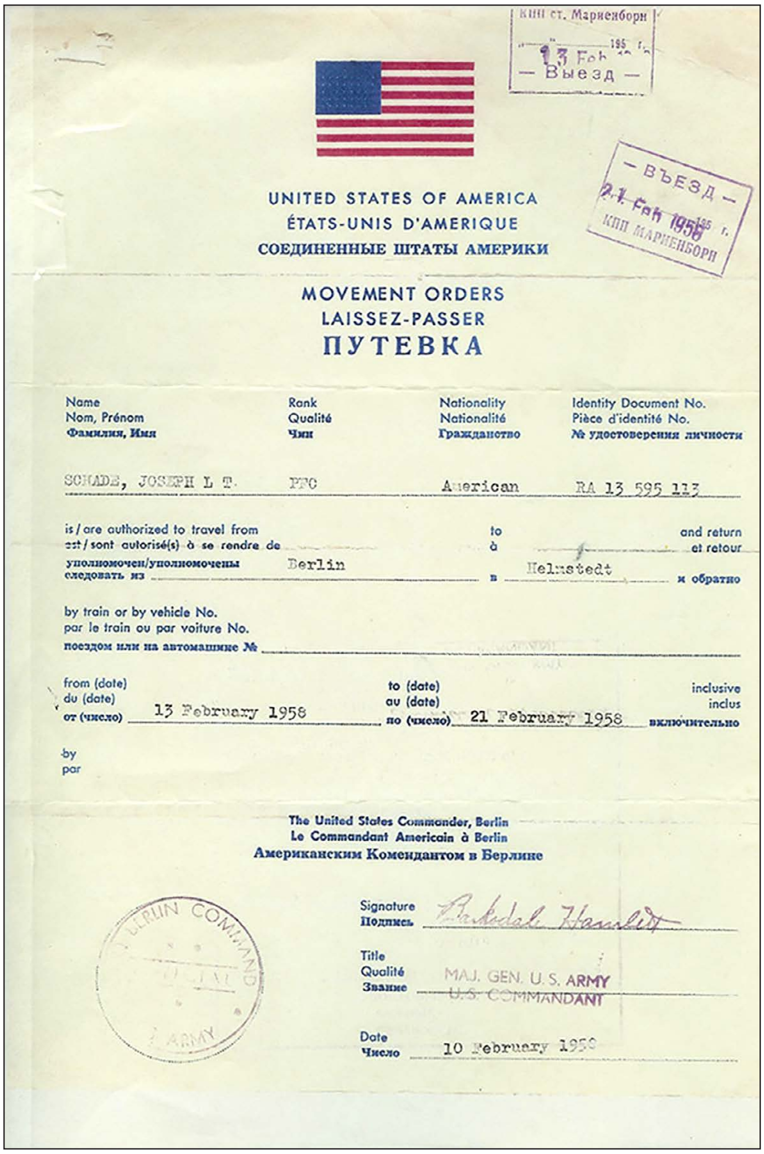
View from the platform at the Rail Transport Office (RTO) at Lichterfelde-West (LiW) station, 1969. (R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)

Transiting the Road and Rail Corridors

West Berlin's unusual status 100 miles into hostile territory meant that access to and from the city took on an unusually important significance for the Allied forces. In June 1948 the road and rail corridors became the centre of an international incident when the Soviets closed them to Western traffic, prompting the 12-month long Berlin Blockade and the airlift that kept West Berlin alive. After a humiliating climb-down, Stalin lifted the blockade in May 1949, allowing road (and rail) traffic to recommence. It was vitally important for the American occupation authorities to have a dependable road and rail link for the transport of troops and materiel from the US headquarters in the Frankfurt/Heidelberg area and from the port of Bremerhaven on the North Sea coast, where transatlantic freighters disembarked millions of tons of supplies.

In late 1945, the US Army Transportation Corps established the Berlin Duty Train to transport military personnel, their families and civilians employed by the US Army or Military Government from West Germany to West Berlin. Train movements were coordinated by the RTO (Rail Transport Office) detachments at Lichterfelde-West station in West Berlin and Helmstedt (Checkpoint ALFA). The Duty Train normally comprised three compartmentalised sleeping cars (the Americans use the word 'car' for 'carriage'), an escort car ('caboose'), a Deutsche Bundespost mail car, and the Passenger-Baggage-Radio (PBR) car, which was the RTO's mobile office.

The West German locomotives from *Deutsche Bundesbahn* (DB) that had pulled the train were comprised of an engineer (driver), fireman (assistant driver), and one or more trainmen (brakemen or assistant conductors). In the case of the Duty Train, the 'conductor' was a Transportation Corps NCO, who stayed with the train for the whole of its journey. Porters were West German civilians who worked for the sleeping car company DSG. The carriages may have been West German (albeit specifically made for the US Army), but at Helmstedt, the *Deutsche Bundesbahn* locomotive from Frankfurt or Bremerhaven was swapped for an East German locomotive of the *Deutsche Reichsbahn* (DR), who would make the slow and tortuous six-hour crossing to Berlin at an average of 18mph. The East German train crews (engineer, fireman, conductor, and assistant conductor) were carefully selected for political reliability and kept apart from other crews. There were large sidings where trains could wait for permission to move off (the rail corridor was only a single track after the Soviets ripped up the tracks of the second line by way of war reparations). Each train was assigned a Train Commander (normally a Transportation Corps second or first lieutenant), a Russian-speaking interpreter, two Military Police officers, and a radio operator, who would all join at Helmstedt,



КПП ст. Мариенборн
13 Feb ... 195 г.
— Выезд —

— ВЪЕЗД —
21 Feb 1958 195 г.
КПП МАРИЕНБОРН

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
СОЕДИНЕННЫЕ ШТАТЫ АМЕРИКИ

MOVEMENT ORDERS
LAISSEZ-PASSER
ПУТЕВКА

Name Nom, Prénom Фамилия, Имя	Rank Qualité Чин	Nationality Nationalité Гражданство	Identity Document No. Pièce d'identité No. № удостоверения личности
SCHADE, JOSEPH L T.	PFC	American	RA 13 595 113

is / are authorized to travel from / est / sont autorisé(s) à se rendre de / уполномочен/уполномочены следовать из Berlin to / à / в Helmstedt and return / et retour / и обратно

by train or by vehicle No. / par le train ou par voiture No. / поездом или на автомашине №

from (date) / du (date) / от (число) 13 February 1958 to (date) / au (date) / по (число) 21 February 1958 inclusive / inclus / включительно

by
par

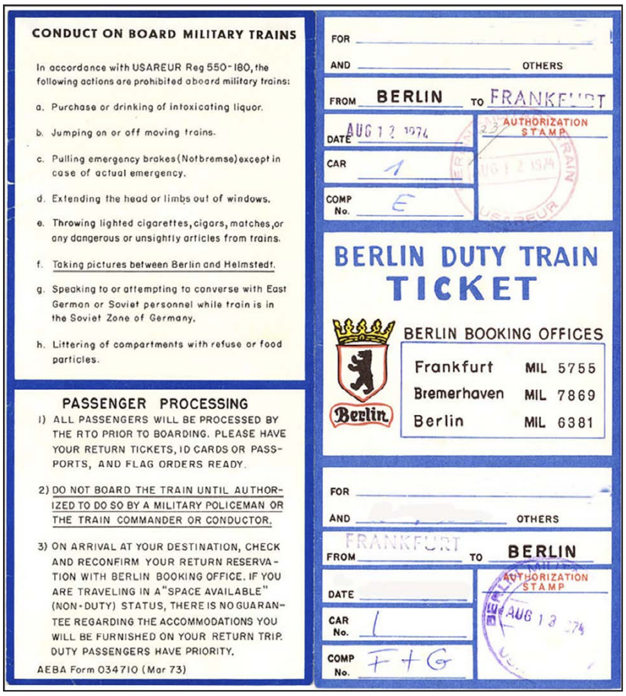
The United States Commander, Berlin
Le Commandant Americain à Berlin
Американским Комендантом в Берлине

Signature / Подпись Barksdale Hamlett

Title / Qualité / Звание MAJ. GEN. U.S. ARMY U.S. COMMANDANT

Date / Число 10 February 1958

A movement order for an American serviceman, PFC Joseph L. T. Schade authorising travel from Berlin to Helmstedt in February 1958. Unusually, the means of travel are left blank, which could have been a problem for PFC Schade. (Private Collection)



CONDUCT ON BOARD MILITARY TRAINS

In accordance with USAREUR Reg 550-180, the following actions are prohibited aboard military trains:

a. Purchase or drinking of intoxicating liquor.

b. Jumping on or off moving trains.

c. Pulling emergency brakes (Notbremse) except in case of actual emergency.

d. Extending the head or limbs out of windows.

e. Throwing lighted cigarettes, cigars, matches, or any dangerous or unsightly articles from trains.

f. Taking pictures between Berlin and Helmstedt.

g. Speaking to or attempting to converse with East German or Soviet personnel while train is in the Soviet Zone of Germany.

h. Littering of compartments with refuse or food particles.

PASSENGER PROCESSING

1) ALL PASSENGERS WILL BE PROCESSED BY THE RTO PRIOR TO BOARDING. PLEASE HAVE YOUR RETURN TICKETS, ID CARDS OR PASSPORTS, AND FLAG ORDERS READY.

2) DO NOT BOARD THE TRAIN UNTIL AUTHORIZED TO DO SO BY A MILITARY POLICEMAN OR THE TRAIN COMMANDER OR CONDUCTOR.

3) ON ARRIVAL AT YOUR DESTINATION, CHECK AND RECONFIRM YOUR RETURN RESERVATION WITH BERLIN BOOKING OFFICE. IF YOU ARE TRAVELING IN A "SPACE AVAILABLE" (NON-DUTY) STATUS, THERE IS NO GUARANTEE REGARDING THE ACCOMMODATIONS YOU WILL BE FURNISHED ON YOUR RETURN TRIP. DUTY PASSENGERS HAVE PRIORITY.

AEBA Form 034710 (Mar 73)

FOR
AND OTHERS
FROM BERLIN TO FRANKFURT
DATE AUG 12 1974
CAR 1
COMP No. E
AUTHORIZATION STAMP
AUG 12 1974

BERLIN DUTY TRAIN TICKET

BERLIN BOOKING OFFICES

Frankfurt	MIL	5755
Bremerhaven	MIL	7869
Berlin	MIL	6381

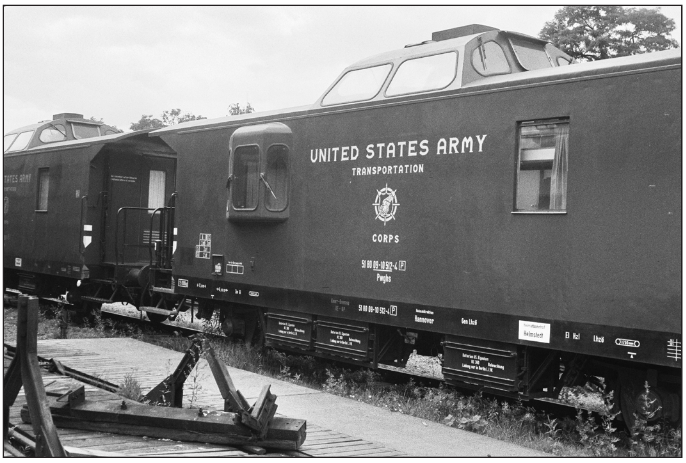
Berlin

FOR
AND OTHERS
FROM FRANKFURT TO BERLIN
DATE
CAR No. 1
COMP No. F + G
AUTHORIZATION STAMP
AUG 13 1974

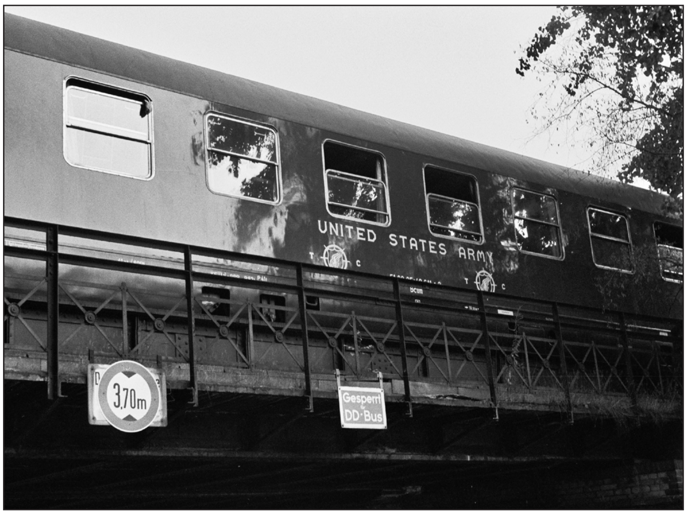
A train ticket for the Berlin Duty Train from Berlin to Frankfurt on 12 August 1974, returning the following day. (Via theberlinobserver.com)

and the conductor, who was already on the train. The train guard, based in the caboose, would check the passenger's military IDs or passports and 'Flag Orders' carefully against the manifest, as any discrepancy would cause lots of problems with the Soviets, who would check them meticulously. The Flag Orders were formal travel or movement documents, 'signed' (stamped) by the US Commandant, and specified the dates of travel, the train number to be taken, or the vehicle registration number, if driving along the corridor, in English, French, and Russian, the languages of the four occupation authorities.[6]

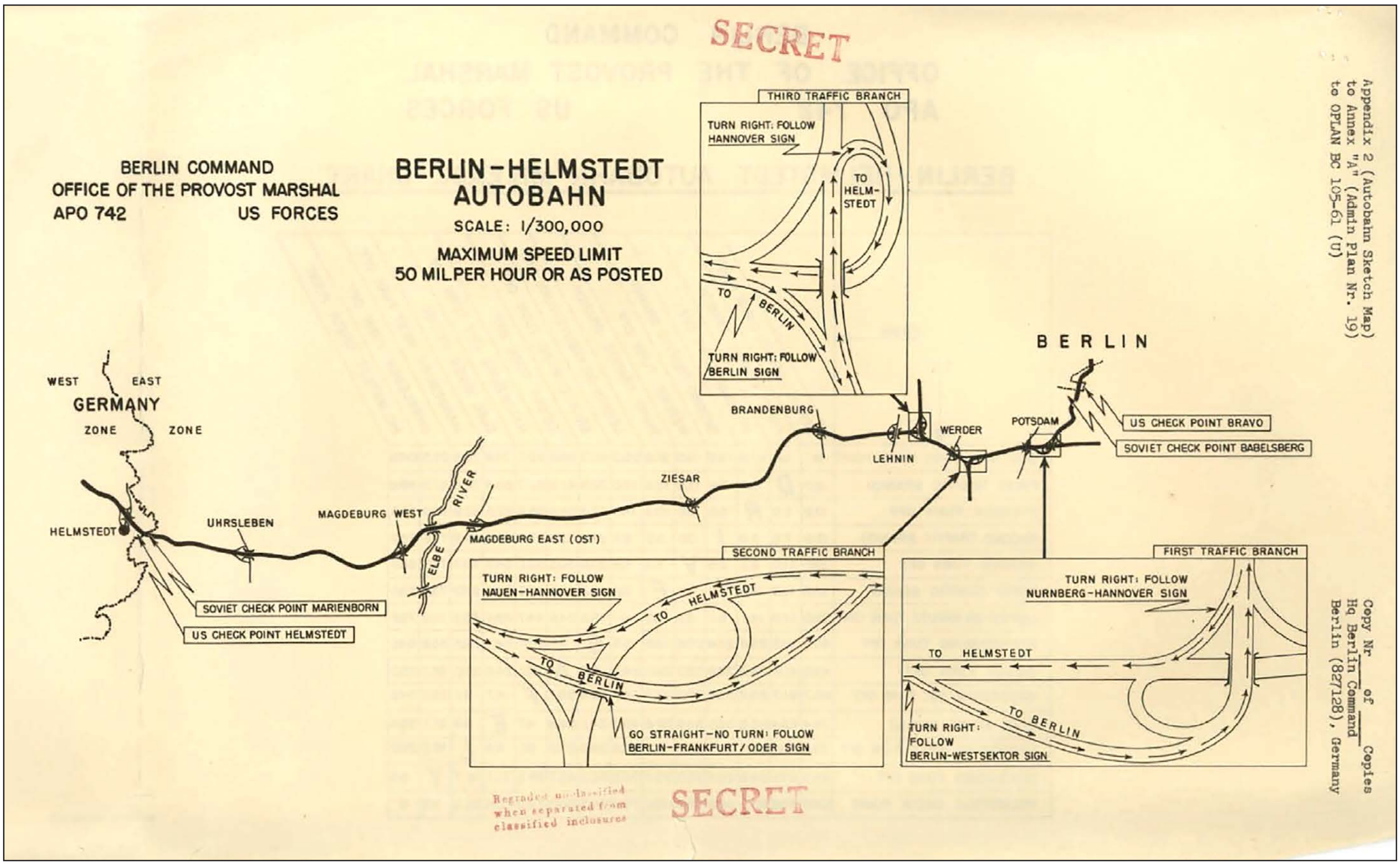
The train commander was responsible for the safety and security of the train during its journey, but after departure, the guard detail would go through the passenger manifest to identify the most senior 'combat arms' officer on the train, seek him out and inform him that he was the senior American officer for that trip and if there was an incident, he would have to take charge. The East German/Soviet authorities were not allowed to board any part of the train so the train commander and interpreter had to exit the train at each checkpoint so that orders and other documents could be inspected. Concerned



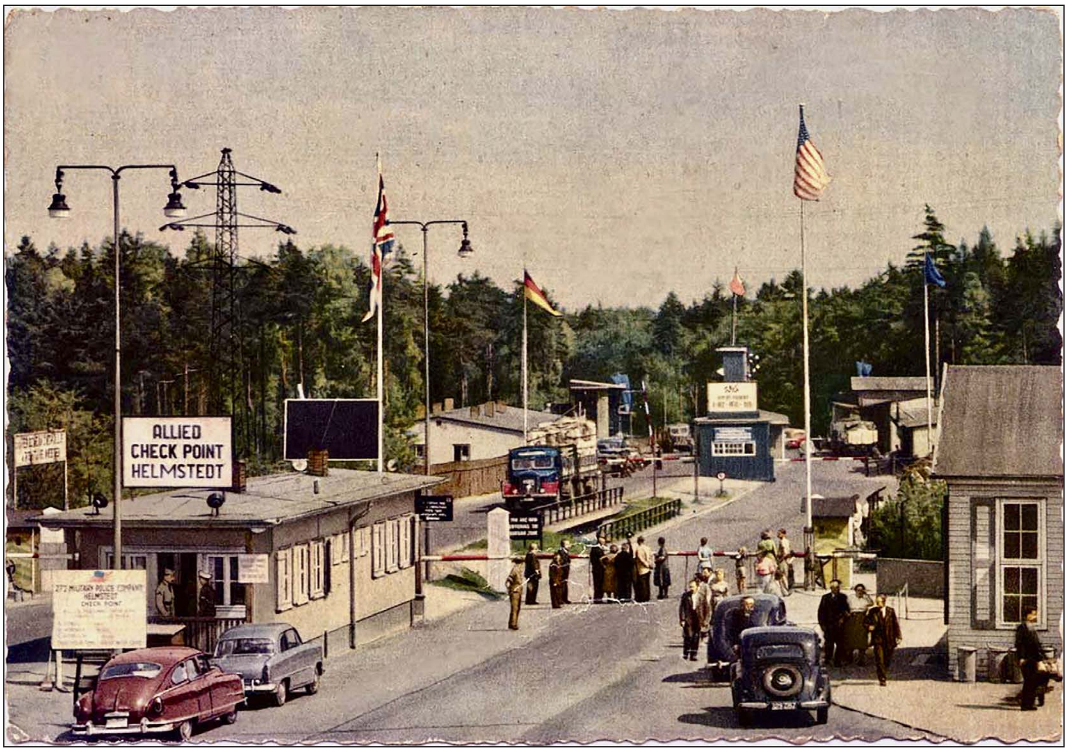
The US Army Transportation Corps Duty Train 'caboose' guard's van at Lichterfelde-West station in West Berlin, 1969. (R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)



The US Army Transportation Corps Passenger-Baggage-Radio carriage, West Berlin, 1969. (R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)


SECRET
BERLIN COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL
APO 742 US FORCES
BERLIN-HELMSTEDT AUTOBAHN
SCALE: 1/300,000
MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT
50 MILPER HOUR OR AS POSTED
Appendix 2 (Autobahn Sketch Map) to Annex "A" (Admin Plan Nr. 19) to OPLAN BC 105-61 (U)
THIRD TRAFFIC BRANCH
TURN RIGHT: FOLLOW HANNOVER SIGN
TO HELM-STEDT
TO BERLIN
TURN RIGHT: FOLLOW BERLIN SIGN
BERLIN
WEST
EAST
GERMANY
ZONE
ZONE
HELMSTEDT
UHRSLEBEN
MAGDEBURG WEST
ELBE
RIVER
MAGDEBURG EAST (OST)
ZIESAR
BRANDENBURG
LEHNIN
WERDER
POTSDAM
US CHECK POINT BRAVO
SOVIET CHECK POINT BABELSBERG
SOVIET CHECK POINT MARIENBORN
US CHECK POINT HELMSTEDT
SECOND TRAFFIC BRANCH
TURN RIGHT: FOLLOW NAUEN-HANNOVER SIGN
TO HELMSTEDT
TO BERLIN
GO STRAIGHT-NO TURN: FOLLOW BERLIN-FRANKFURT/ODER SIGN
FIRST TRAFFIC BRANCH
TURN RIGHT: FOLLOW NURNBERG-HANNOVER SIGN
TO HELMSTEDT
TO BERLIN
TURN RIGHT: FOLLOW BERLIN-WESTSEKTOR SIGN
Copy Nr ___ of ___ Copies
Hq Berlin Command
Berlin (82/128), Germany
Regraded unclassified when separated from classified inclosures
SECRET

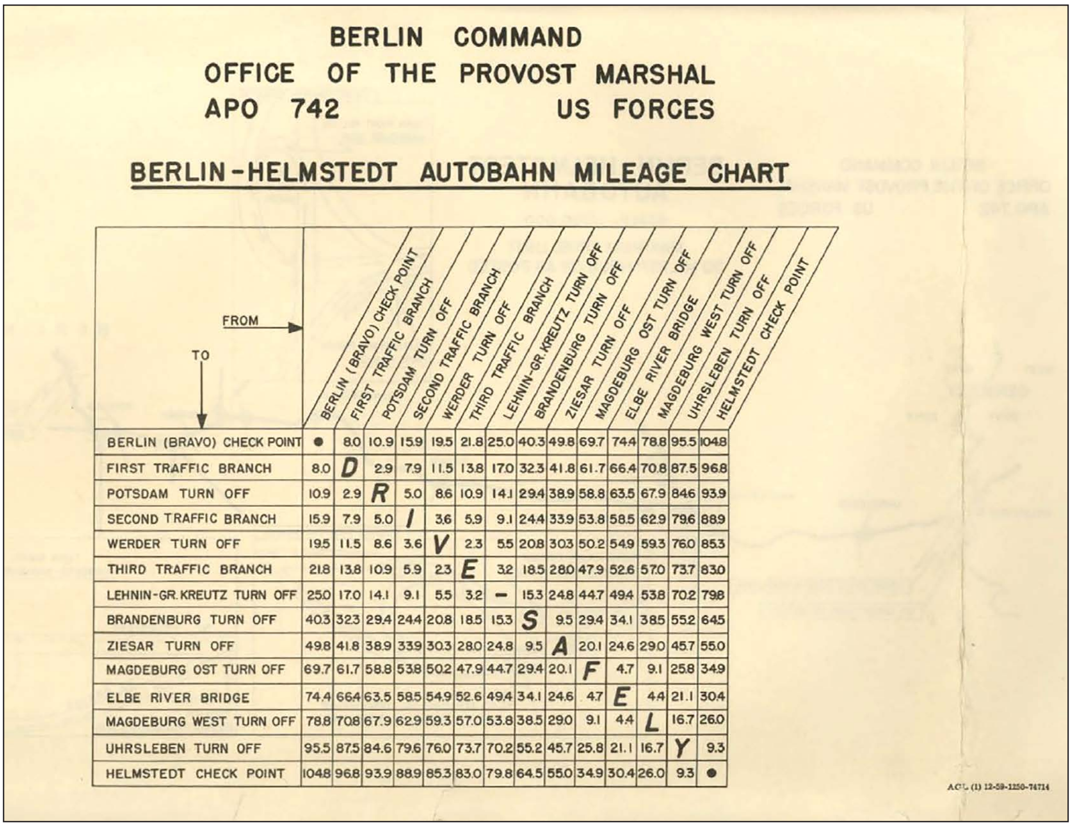
Schematic issued to drivers using the road corridor autobahn between Helmstedt (Checkpoint ALFA in West Germany) and Checkpoint BRAVO (West Berlin). It was vitally important to pay attention at the major intersections approaching Berlin to avoid ending up inside the DDR. (Berlin Brigade Operations Plan, 1961, US National Archives)


ALLIED
CHECK POINT
HELMSTEDT
272 MILITARY POLICE COMPANY
HELMSTEDT
CHECK POINT

MPs from the 272nd MP Company provide security at the Allied checkpoint at Helmstedt (Checkpoint ALFA), 1953. Hand tinted postcard. (Walter Elkins, usarmygermany.com)

that a train could be diverted or stopped en route and boarded by the East Germans or Soviets, the train commander monitored the progress of the train as it travelled across the DDR, with the radio operator (Frankfurt train callsign QY7F and Bremerhaven train callsign QY7B) giving a running commentary to HQ Berlin Command at US Headquarters on Clayallee (callsign ME6), and the RTO (Rail Transport Office) in Helmstedt (callsign 0YP). Therefore, if, for any reason, the train did not arrive at a station at the given time, Berlin Command and the RTO would know immediately, and the appropriate action could be taken.[7] If the guard detail spotted anything of interest (troop movements etc) on the crossing, this too would be passed on.[8]

The two radio operators used a Second World War-vintage SCR-399 radio set-up, normally fitted in the back of a 2 ½-ton 6X6 truck. It had a 300w BC-610 transmitter, powerful enough to reach either end of the rail corridor and all communications were encoded and sent in morse code. Later, a Motorola VHF radiotelephone was installed, but this had limited range, only reaching out as far as Wannsee on the return leg. On the return leg, once the Soviet Zone had been crossed, the radio carriage was unhitched and left at Helmstedt, ready to make the return trip to Berlin.[9] Despite being a single track and with poor under-developed infrastructure, it was in



BERLIN COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL
APO 742 US FORCES

BERLIN-HELMSTEDT AUTOBAHN MILEAGE CHART

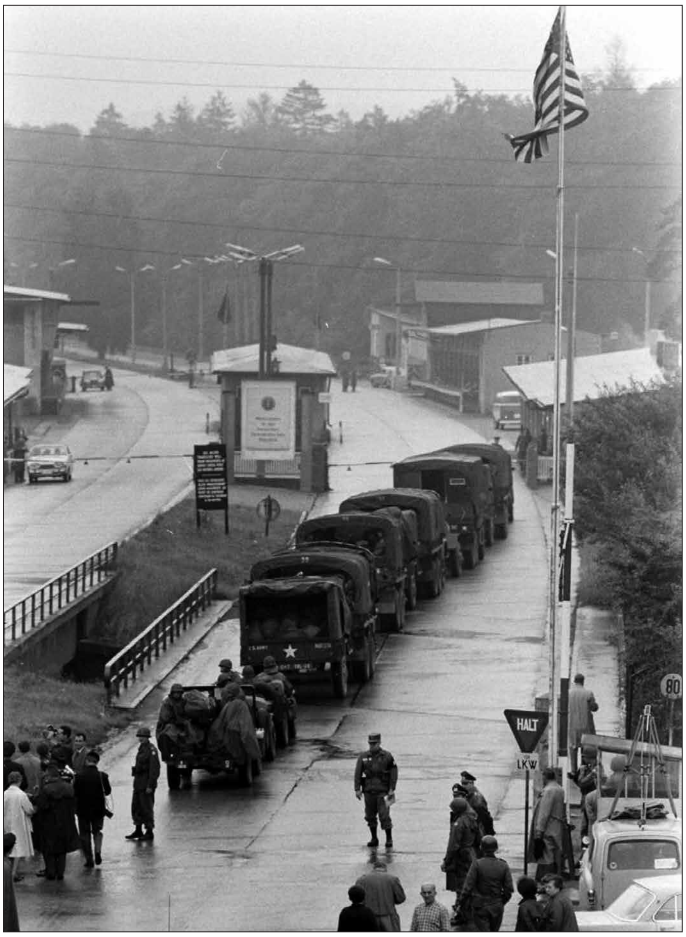
FROM → / TO ↓	BERLIN (BRAVO) CHECK POINT	FIRST TRAFFIC BRANCH	POTSDAM TURN OFF	SECOND TRAFFIC BRANCH	WERDER TURN OFF	THIRD TRAFFIC BRANCH	LEHNIN-GR. KREUTZ TURN OFF	BRANDENBURG TURN OFF	ZIESAR TURN OFF	MAGDEBURG OST TURN OFF	ELBE RIVER BRIDGE	MAGDEBURG WEST TURN OFF	UHRSLEBEN TURN OFF	HELMSTEDT CHECK POINT
BERLIN (BRAVO) CHECK POINT	●	8.0	10.9	15.9	19.5	21.8	25.0	40.3	49.8	69.7	74.4	78.8	95.5	104.8
FIRST TRAFFIC BRANCH	8.0	D	2.9	7.9	11.5	13.8	17.0	32.3	41.8	61.7	66.4	70.8	87.5	96.8
POTSDAM TURN OFF	10.9	2.9	R	5.0	8.6	10.9	14.1	29.4	38.9	58.8	63.5	67.9	84.6	93.9
SECOND TRAFFIC BRANCH	15.9	7.9	5.0	I	3.6	5.9	9.1	24.4	33.9	53.8	58.5	62.9	79.6	88.9
WERDER TURN OFF	19.5	11.5	8.6	3.6	V	2.3	5.5	20.8	30.3	50.2	54.9	59.3	76.0	85.3
THIRD TRAFFIC BRANCH	21.8	13.8	10.9	5.9	2.3	E	3.2	18.5	28.0	47.9	52.6	57.0	73.7	83.0
LEHNIN-GR. KREUTZ TURN OFF	25.0	17.0	14.1	9.1	5.5	3.2	–	15.3	24.8	44.7	49.4	53.8	70.2	79.8
BRANDENBURG TURN OFF	40.3	32.3	29.4	24.4	20.8	18.5	15.3	S	9.5	29.4	34.1	38.5	55.2	64.5
ZIESAR TURN OFF	49.8	41.8	38.9	33.9	30.3	28.0	24.8	9.5	A	20.1	24.6	29.0	45.7	55.0
MAGDEBURG OST TURN OFF	69.7	61.7	58.8	53.8	50.2	47.9	44.7	29.4	20.1	F	4.7	9.1	25.8	34.9
ELBE RIVER BRIDGE	74.4	66.4	63.5	58.5	54.9	52.6	49.4	34.1	24.6	4.7	E	4.4	21.1	30.4
MAGDEBURG WEST TURN OFF	78.8	70.8	67.9	62.9	59.3	57.0	53.8	38.5	29.0	9.1	4.4	L	16.7	26.0
UHRSLEBEN TURN OFF	95.5	87.5	84.6	79.6	76.0	73.7	70.2	55.2	45.7	25.8	21.1	16.7	Y	9.3
HELMSTEDT CHECK POINT	104.8	96.8	93.9	88.9	85.3	83.0	79.8	64.5	55.0	34.9	30.4	26.0	9.3	●

ACL (1) 12-59-1250-74714

Mileage chart issued to drivers using the road corridor autobahn between Helmstedt (Checkpoint ALFA in West Germany) and Checkpoint BRAVO (West Berlin). Drivers had to keep a close eye in mileage to avoid coming off the autobahn too early and ending up inside the DDR. (Berlin Brigade Operations Plan, 1961, US National Archives)

everyone's interest to keep the trains running on time, and the East German leg of the journey was normally very reliable.

It was not just the transiting personnel that needed protecting – a huge amount of freight passed along the rail corridor, and this needed to be protected from theft by black market organised crime. The 388th Military Police Battalion, assigned to 7th Army in Germany, became the first dedicated MP unit tasked with rail security. In July 1947, the 7747th MP Railway Security Detachment was created, and apart from rail security, they were tasked with the supervision and management of the German Railway Police (GRP). The civilian GRP took an increasing role in policing the US Army's trains, but because of the various treaties with the Soviets, no German guards were allowed on the last leg of the journey across the DDR to Berlin – that had to be handled by Military Police. By April 1948, responsibility for the GRP had passed to the new German Rail Administration (GRA). In September 1948, the 7747th Military Police Railway Security Group was created, organising all railway guard personnel and functions into one organisation, and absorbing the 388th MP Battalion, which was duly deactivated. Detachment F-3 of the group (formerly D Company, 388th MP BN) was stationed in West Berlin. In September 1951, the 7747th MP Group was downsized and redesignated as the 540th MP Battalion, which was in turn was replaced by 570th MP Company in 1956, serving in West Germany (but not Berlin) until 1990.[10]

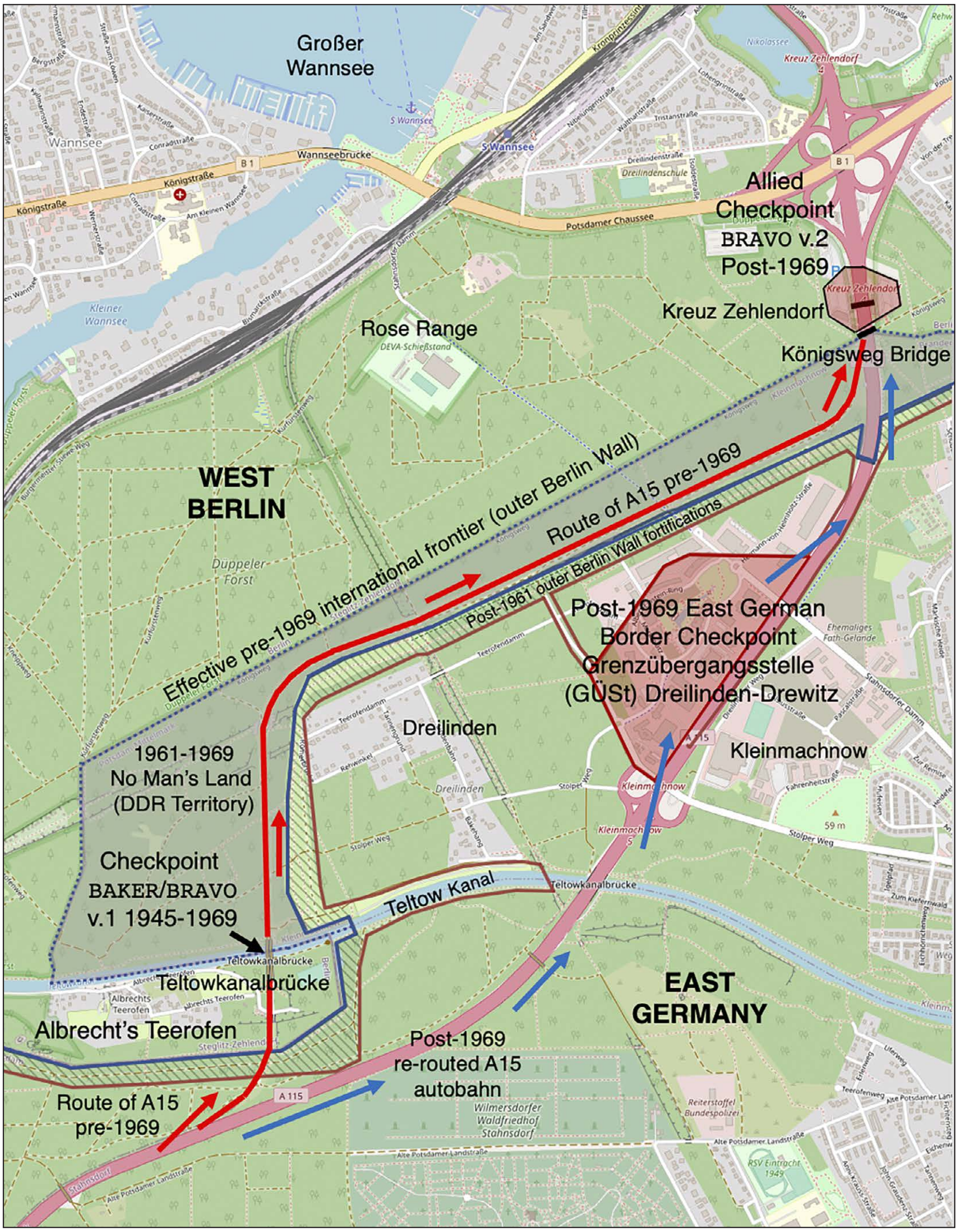


A US military convoy waits to be processed through Checkpoint ALFA at Helmstedt in the 1960s. (Albert Grandolini Collection)

The MPs assigned to the trains were required to:

- Dismount and patrol each side of the train at every stop
- On passenger trains: check passenger IDs and orders before boarding and ensure that all passengers possessed a Russian translation of their orders
- Protect the US mail, military supplies (medical, small arms and ammunition, Exchange goods) and classified material
- Maintain law-and-order
- Stop pilferage
- Be on the alert for deserters or defectors

If it was a freight train, troopers wore fatigues with an MP brassard and white belt. Troopers assigned to passenger trains wore dress uniform with a white helmet liner, which was replaced in 1955 by a white cap. A Russian translator was picked up at Helmstedt to help navigate through the bureaucracy at Marienborn, the first stop in the DDR, and as normal, the MPs would ignore the East Germans, liaising only with the Soviet sentries. Document checks were demanded by the Soviets at Marienborn irrespective of whether the


Großer Wannsee
Allied Checkpoint BRAVO v.2 Post-1969
Kreuz Zehlendorf
Königsweg Bridge
Rose Range
WEST BERLIN
Effective pre-1969 international frontier (outer Berlin Wall)
Route of A15 pre-1969
Post-1961 outer Berlin Wall fortifications
Post-1969 East German Border Checkpoint Grenzübergangsstelle (GÜSt) Dreilinden-Drewitz
Dreilinden
Kleinmachnow
1961-1969 No Man's Land (DDR Territory)
Checkpoint BAKER/BRAVO v.1 1945-1969
Teltow Kanal
Teltowkanalbrücke
Albrecht's Teerofen
Route of A15 pre-1969
Post-1969 re-routed A15 autobahn
EAST GERMANY

The move of Checkpoint BRAVO. (Author using Open Streetmap mapping)

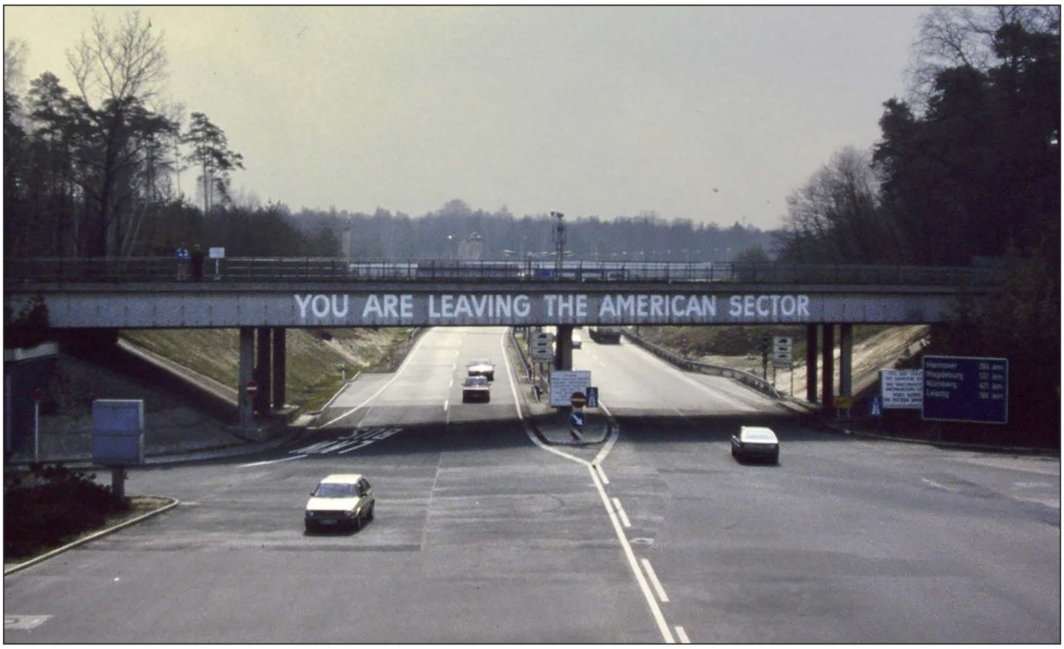
train was going to or coming from West Berlin. The Soviets were not allowed to board the trains under any circumstances, and although the American MPs were armed (small arms only), they were not allowed to open fire unless fired upon. For the three-to-four-hour, 110-mile, transit across East Germany (it was quicker on the return leg for some unknown reason), the passengers were instructed to remain in their seats, close all windows and lower all window blinds. The British and French also ran duty trains and Allied personnel could use any of the three services. American services were dry (no alcohol), but alcohol was available on the British and French trains, all at duty-free prices.

Having to deal with the Soviets daily, these young MPs had to bear the brunt of the Soviet intransigence and obstructions leading up to the Berlin Blockade in June 1948. On 20 June, an American Duty Train was stopped at Marienborn, the first stop in the DDR after Helmstedt, and not allowed to proceed. To emphasise the point, the Soviets ripped up the train tracks at the end of the platform. The Berlin Blockade had begun, and not having any trains to guard, the 7747th Military Police Railway Security Group were tasked with guarding sensitive and classified material flown into the city, including millions of dollars in cash, highly recognisable in their white helmet liners, bloused boots, and Sam Browne belts. After the blockade was lifted, the 7747th began guarding every train that passed through the DDR, irrespective of type or priority. In October 1964, 287th MP Company absorbed the Berlin platoon of the 570th MP Railway Guard Company after a downsizing of that unit. The troopers from the railway guard became a special section within the 287th and continued to provide security for the Duty Train.

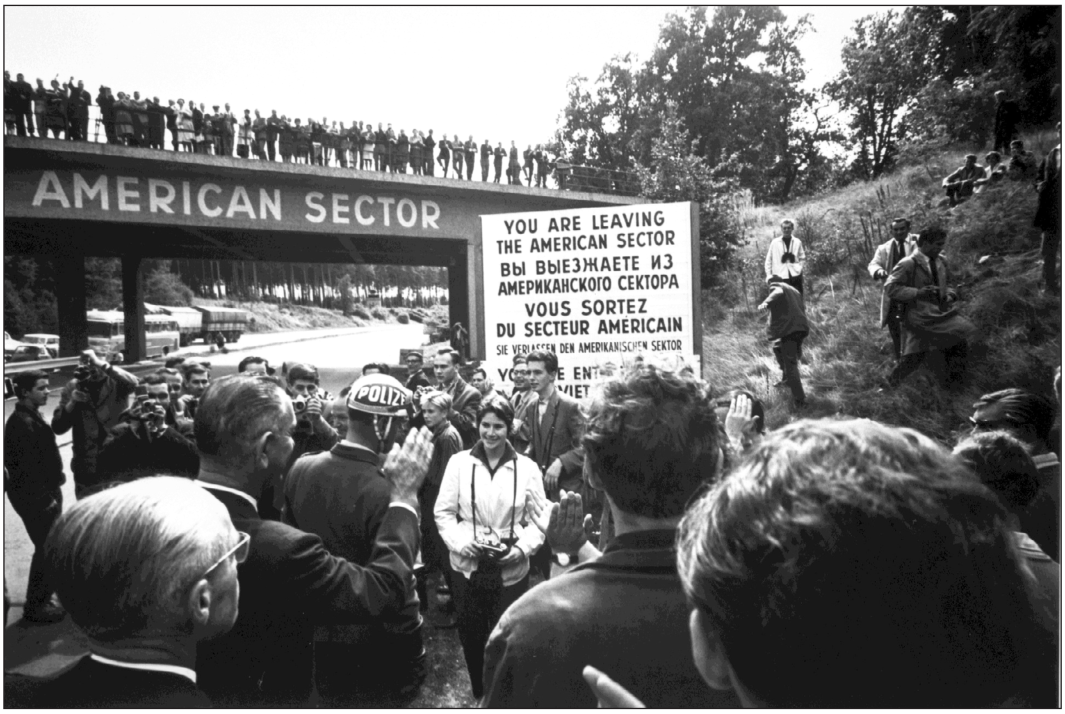
By the mid-1970s, the easing of transport restrictions resulting from the Quadripartite Agreement, meant that the 287th MP Company no longer needed to accompany freight trains travelling along the corridor to West Berlin. The agreement allowed sealed freight carriages to go uninspected, so apart from special or sensitive shipments, the MPs only accompanied the passenger Duty Train.

The road corridor from West Germany to West Berlin was 110 miles (170km) long and was one of the three access routes (road, rail, and air) in and out of West Berlin. The journey across East German territory was carefully controlled and monitored to ensure Western vehicles could pass unmolested, but it remained a possible flashpoint between East and West right until the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. At either end of the corridor there were both Allied and East German/Soviet checkpoints which controlled the traffic along it.

A vehicle travelling from West Germany to West Berlin would have to drive to the town of Helmstedt in the British Zone, just to the west of Brunswick (Braunschweig) and proceed to the Allied checkpoint there known as Checkpoint ALFA. On the other side of the border was the East German checkpoint at Marienborn. While Helmstedt is a reasonable size town in what was West Germany, Marienborn is a tiny village in the former DDR which gained notoriety only by being the nearest settlement to the border crossing. The Helmstedt-Marienborn border checkpoint was known to the West Germans as *Grenzübergang* Helmstedt-Marienborn



The famous Königsweg bridge over the A15 (now A115) 'Avus' autobahn at Dreilinden-Drewitz, Berlin-Wannsee, 1970s, marking the end of the American Sector and the start of the road corridor to West Germany. The tank monument in Dreilinden can just be seen in the background. Until 1969, the actual checkpoint (Checkpoint BRAVO) was a few kilometres further along the autobahn at the Teltow Kanal bridge. After that the A15 was re-routed and the East German checkpoint was just after the bridge, with the Allied checkpoint being just before it. (Dan Hermann)


AMERICAN SECTOR
YOU ARE LEAVING THE AMERICAN SECTOR
ВЫ ВЫЕЗЖАЕТЕ ИЗ АМЕРИКАНСКОГО СЕКТОРА
VOUS SORTEZ DU SECTEUR AMERICAIN
SIE VERLASSEN DEN AMERIKANISCHEN SEKTOR
POLIZEI

The same bridge being viewed by US Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson and a crowd of onlookers during his visit to West Berlin following the construction of the Berlin Wall, August 1961. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

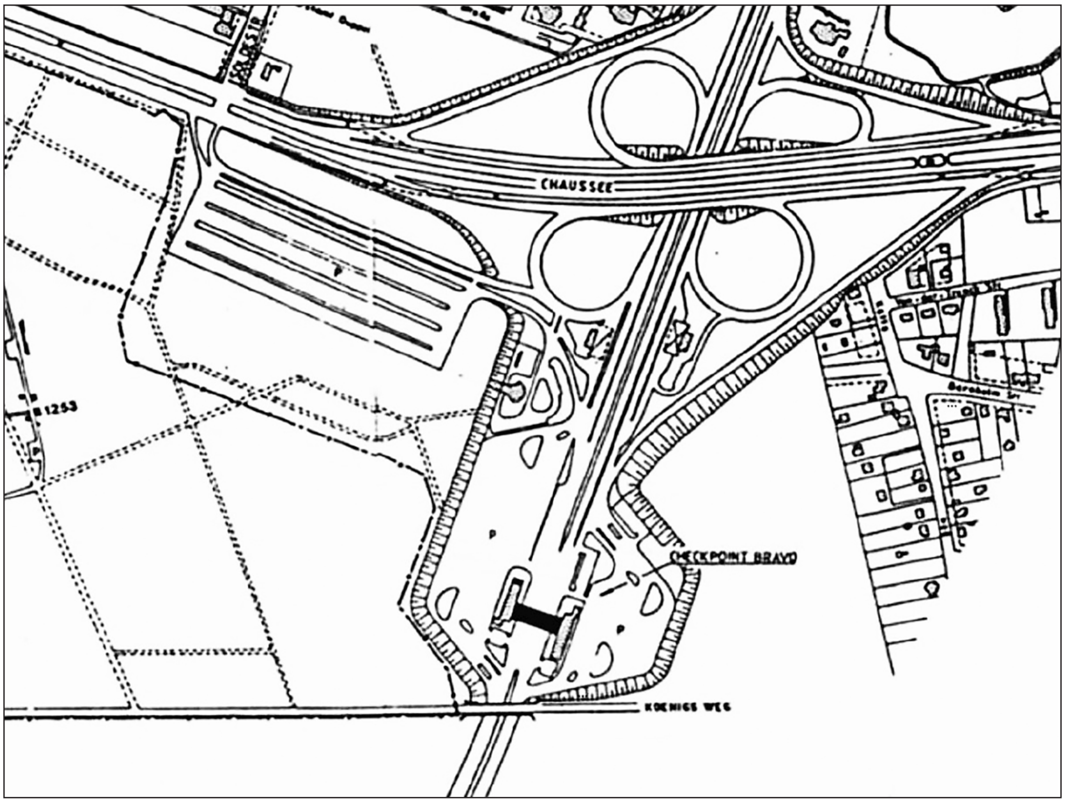
or *Kontrollpunkt* Helmstedt, while the East Germans called it *Grenzübergangsstelle* (GÜSt) Marienborn.

On arrival at Checkpoint ALFA, drivers would report to the MPs on duty, who would brief them on the procedural aspects of the journey and give them an information pack with maps and mileage tables. An important part of the role was to ensure that the details on the movement orders for military personnel (Flag Orders) exactly matched the details on the military ID cards, dependent ID cards or US passports of the travellers. If they did not match, the Soviet guards at the other end would not attempt to investigate the mismatch, they would simply turn the vehicle around and send them back whence they came. The final task was to log their vehicle registration number, mileometer reading and departure time, which were then phoned through to the Allied checkpoint at the other end and direct them to join the end of the queue for the East German/Soviet checkpoint, where long waits were the norm. After a frustrating wait and lengthy document checks (where the registration number and departure time were also recorded and phoned through to the East German/Soviet checkpoint at the other end), the vehicle would be sent on its way.

By the 1970s, the East German side of the border had developed into a 35-hectare complex with a staff of 1,000 passport control and customs officers, border troops and support staff. The buildings contained passport booths, inspection garages, offices, and interrogation rooms.[11] MPs from the Berlin Brigade provided security on the West German side of the checkpoint on a three-day rotation, staying in barrack blocks close by.

For the traveller, transiting across East Germany was a nerve-wracking and intimidating experience requiring very careful attention to the briefings given, close monitoring of the vehicle's speed and lots of patience. Drivers were issued a mileage chart to follow to ensure they did not accidentally come off at one of the *earlier* exits and end up in East Germany, and with flash cards in German, Russian and English for use in emergency, saying things like 'I wish to proceed without further delay' or 'I demand to see a Soviet officer.' Despite that, drivers did get it wrong on occasion, and there were reports of lost and confused Western drivers being arrested deep inside the DDR. Allied military liaison mission vehicles regularly encountered these stragglers and would stop to offer advice. If the driver and/or passengers were military, the mission tour car would escort them back to the autobahn to avoid a potential incident.

Breaking down or being involved in a road traffic accident along the corridor was problematic. Until the Berlin Blockade of 1948–



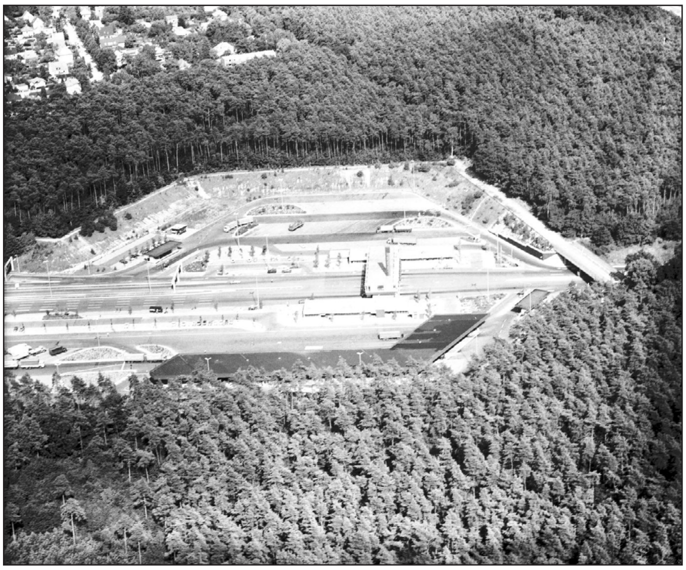
Map of Checkpoint BRAVO. (US Army Berlin Brigade Directorate of Engineering and Housing)

1949, the Allies maintained military police 'outposts' inside eastern Germany to offer emergency aid to drivers and ran 'courtesy' patrols in marked cars up and down the autobahn (the US Military Police even had a 'Highway Patrol' section), but these were not allowed to recommence when the route was eventually reopened. Military personnel transiting were required to stop and give assistance to any Western vehicle that had stopped en route and report the incident or breakdown immediately on arriving at the other end of the corridor, where recovery could be organised.

The carriageway itself was not that different to a normal motorway, although it was in poor condition. It did have fencing or walls on either side, but these were no more dramatic than in the West, in other words, it did not feel like driving along a 110-mile tunnel. Western cars were not allowed to use the various rest stops, and of course the motorway exits en route were only for East German cars.

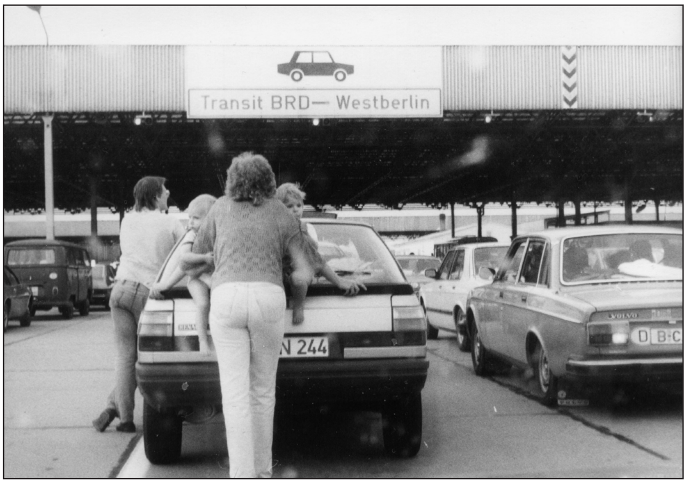
The East Germans took every opportunity to take hard Western currency from travellers and would fine drivers if the border guards believed they had been speeding. In the mid-1960s, US MPs imposed a speed limit of 40mph along the autobahn, so the East Germans had no grounds to stop or fine their drivers. The mileometer and departure time taken at Checkpoint ALFA could be used as evidence if challenged by the *Grepos*. The British and French used a different system setting a minimum time limit of two hours and maximum of four hours for the journey. If the car arrived before the minimum time (and had therefore broken the speed limit), the driver could be fined by the East Germans. If the car had not checked in at BRAVO after four hours, a search party could be sent out from ALFA to look for them. The Americans had adopted the minimum time approach by the 1980s. Military convoys were not exempt from lengthy delays and tedious checks as they headed to and from West Berlin.

The road corridor terminated on the outskirts of West Berlin on the southern edge of the American Sector at Wannsee. The first Allied checkpoint (initially called Checkpoint BAKER and then Checkpoint BRAVO) was set up in August 1945 on a bridge over the Teltow Canal (Teltowkanalbrücke) on the eastern extreme of the Albrecht's Teerofen 'peninsula.' By a quirk of the old Berlin district boundaries in this corner of city (just like the neighbouring enclave of Steinstücken), drivers on the autobahn from West Germany

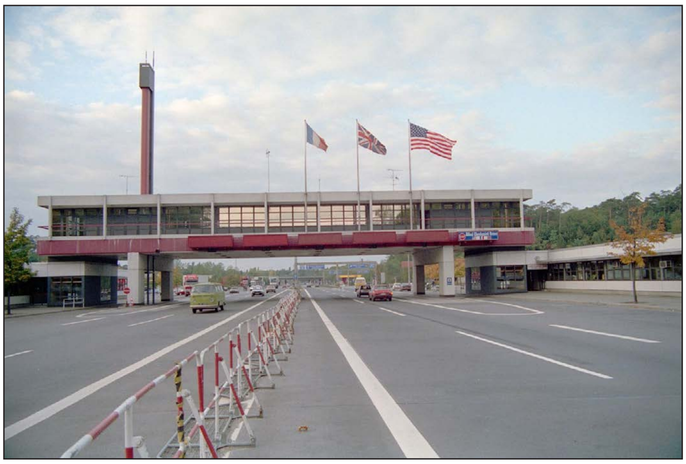


Allied Checkpoint BRAVO in Dreilinden-Drewitz in Berlin-Zehlendorf in the late 1970s. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

East German border guards check vehicles at *Grenzübergang* Drewitz-Dreilinden, March 1972. The queues are due to the temporary easing of travel restrictions into East Germany. (Bundesarchiv, Bild 183-L0331-0007/Reiche, Hartmut/CC-BY-SA 3.0)

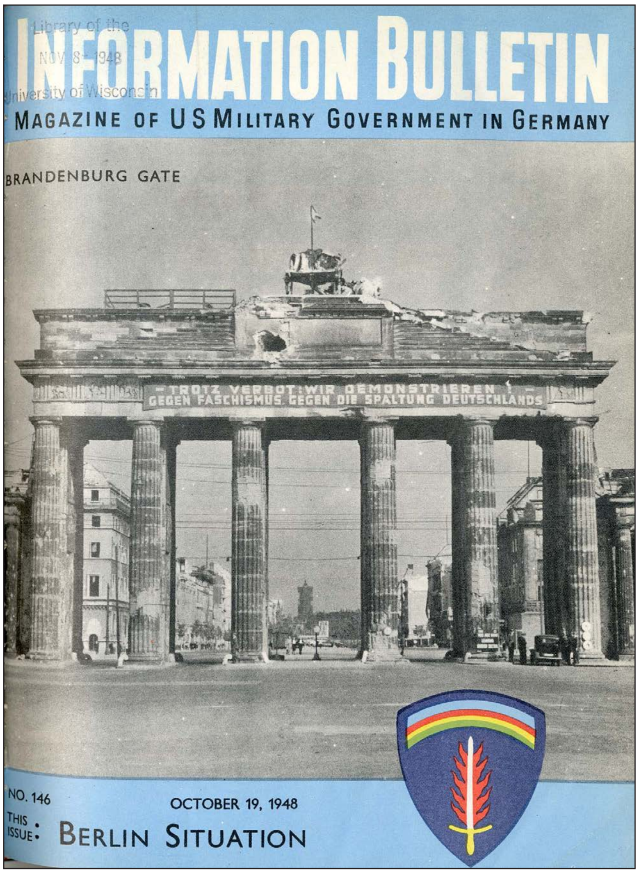


Transit traffic from West Germany waiting to enter West Berlin at the East German checkpoint at Drewitz in 1986. Drivers and passengers would push their cars to save fuel. (David Wintzer via Wikimedia Commons)



The bridge house above the A 15 motorway at Allied Checkpoint BRAVO in Berlin-Zehlendorf with the flags of the Allied powers, 2 October 1990. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)

would first cross into the American Sector on the long thin peninsula of American territory at Albrecht's Teerofen (Albrecht's tar oven) which jutted out into the DDR and contained the bridge and the checkpoint. The East Germans called the checkpoint *Kontrollpassierpunkt* (KPP) Nowawes and later *Grenzübergangsstelle* (GÜSt) Dreilinden-Drewitz. Drivers would then leave the American Sector and travel through several kilometres of DDR territory before entering West Berlin proper at Kreuz Zehlendorf (the Zehlendorfer Kleeblatt or Zehlendorfer Shamrock) in Nikolassee, just across the border from Kleinmachnow, which joined the A15 AVUS autobahn into the city. When the East Germans closed the Inner German Border in 1952 and built the Berlin Wall in 1961, this clumsy routing meant that there was little control of these Western vehicles crossing their territory and so in 1969 they re-routed the A15 autobahn south of Albrecht's Teerofen, crossing the outskirts of Kleinmachnow and joining the old route just south of Kreuz Zehlendorf. And with the new routing, the East Germans built an extensive new border checkpoint in Kleinmachnow. The Americans moved Checkpoint BRAVO to just north of the Königsweg bridge and although the border crossing had moved several kilometres to the northeast, the names remained the same. The new GÜSt Dreilinden-Drewitz was huge (the largest in Europe) and had a similar layout to Marienborn with passport offices, guard huts, vehicle inspection bays, *Stasi* offices, and interrogation rooms for those unfortunate enough to get the attention of the authorities.



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INFORMATION BULLETIN

MAGAZINE OF US MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN GERMANY

BRANDENBURG GATE

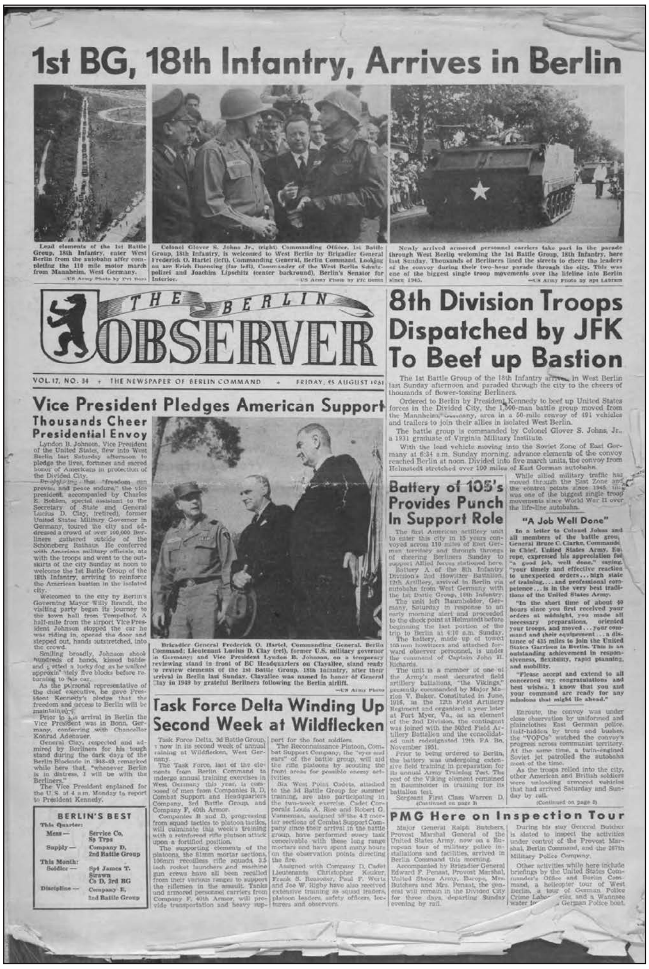
TROTZ VERBOT: WIR DEMONSTRIEREN!
GEGEN FASCHISMUS GEGEN DIE SPALTUNG DEUTSCHLANDS

NO. 146

OCTOBER 19, 1948

THIS ISSUE: BERLIN SITUATION

Front cover of the 19 October 1948 issue of *Information Bulletin: Magazine of US Military Government in Germany*. (theberlinobserver.com)



1st BG, 18th Infantry, Arrives in Berlin

Lead elements of the 1st Battle Group, 18th Infantry, enter West Berlin from the autobahn after completing the 110 mile motor march from Mannheim, West Germany. —US Army Photo by Pvt [illegible]

Colonel Glover S. Johns Jr. (right) Commanding Officer, 1st Battle Group, 18th Infantry, is welcomed to West Berlin by Brigadier General Frederick O. Hartel (left), Commanding General, Berlin Command. Looking on are Erich Duensing (far left), Commander of the West Berlin Schutzpolizei and Joachim Lipschitz (center backround), Berlin's Senator for Interior. —US Army Photo by Pfc [illegible]

Newly arrived armored personnel carriers take part in the parade through West Berlin welcoming the 1st Battle Group, 18th Infantry, here last Sunday. Thousands of Berliners lined the streets to cheer the leaders of the convoy during their two-hour parade through the city. This was one of the biggest single troop movements over the lifeline into Berlin since 1945. —US Army Photo by Sp4 [illegible]

THE BERLIN OBSERVER

VOL. 17, NO. 34 • THE NEWSPAPER OF BERLIN COMMAND • FRIDAY, 25 AUGUST 1961

Vice President Pledges American Support

Thousands Cheer Presidential Envoy

Lyndon B. Johnson, Vice President of the United States, flew into West Berlin last Saturday afternoon to pledge the lives, fortunes and sacred honor of Americans in protection of the Divided City.

Proclaiming that "freedom can prevail and peace endure," the vice president, accompanied by Charles E. Bohlen, special assistant to the Secretary of State and General Lucius D. Clay, (retired), former United States Military Governor in Germany, toured the city and addressed a crowd of over 100,000 Berliners gathered outside of the Schöneberg Rathaus. He conferred with American military officials, ate with the troops and went to the outskirts of the city Sunday at noon to welcome the 1st Battle Group of the 18th Infantry, arriving to reinforce the American bastion in the isolated city.

Welcomed to the city by Berlin's Governing Mayor Willy Brandt, the visiting party began its journey to the town hall from Tempelhof. A half-mile from the airport Vice President Johnson stopped the car he was riding in, opened the door and stepped out, hands outstretched, into the crowd.

Smiling broadly, Johnson shook hundreds of hands, kissed babies and petted a lucky dog as he walked approximately five blocks before returning to his car.

As the personal representative of the chief executive, he gave President Kennedy's pledge that the freedom and access to Berlin will be maintained.

Prior to his arrival in Berlin the Vice President was in Bonn, Germany, conferring with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

General Clay, respected and admired by Berliners for his tough stand during the dark days of the Berlin Blockade in 1948-49, remarked while here that, "whenever Berlin is in distress, I will be with the Berliners."

The Vice President enplaned for the U.S. at 4 a.m. Monday to report to President Kennedy.

Brigadier General Frederick O. Hartel, Commanding General, Berlin Command; Lieutenant Lucius D. Clay (ret), former U.S. military governor in Germany; and Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, on a temporary reviewing stand in front of BC Headquarters on Clayallee, stand ready to review elements of the 1st Battle Group, 18th Infantry, after their arrival in Berlin last Sunday. Clayallee was named in honor of General Clay in 1949 by grateful Berliners following the Berlin airlift. —US Army Photo

BERLIN'S BEST

This Quarter:

Mess —	Service Co, Sp Trps
Supply —	Company D, 2nd Battle Group

This Month:

Soldier —	Sp4 James T. Sirawn Co D, 3rd BG
Discipline —	Company E, 2nd Battle Group

Task Force Delta Winding Up Second Week at Wildflecken

Task Force Delta, 3d Battle Group, is now in its second week of annual training at Wildflecken, West Germany.

The Task Force, last of the elements from Berlin Command to undergo annual training exercises in West Germany this year, is composed of men from Companies B, D, Combat Support and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battle Group, and Company F, 40th Armor.

Companies B and D, progressing from squad tactics to platoon tactics, will culminate this week's training with a reinforced rifle platoon attack upon a fortified position.

The supporting elements of the platoons, the 81mm mortar sections, 106mm recoilless rifle squads, 3.5 inch rocket launchers and machine gun crews have all been recalled from their various ranges to support the riflemen in the assault. Tanks and armored personnel carriers from Company F, 40th Armor, will provide transportation and heavy support for the foot soldiers.

The Reconnaissance Platoon, Combat Support Company, the "eyes and ears" of the battle group, will aid the rifle platoons by scouting the front areas for possible enemy activities.

Six West Point Cadets, attached to the 3d Battle Group for summer training, are also participating in the two-week exercise. Cadet Corporals Louis A. Rice and Robert G. Vanneman, assigned to the 4.2 mortar sections of Combat Support Company since their arrival in the battle group, have performed every task conceivable with these long range mortars and have spent many hours on the observation points directing the fire.

Assigned with Company D, Cadet Lieutenants Christopher Keuker, Frank S. Reasoner, Paul F. Wertz and Joe W. Rigby have also received extensive training as squad leaders, platoon leaders, safety officers, lecturers and observers.

8th Division Troops Dispatched by JFK To Beef up Bastion

The 1st Battle Group of the 18th Infantry arrived in West Berlin last Sunday afternoon and paraded through the city to the cheers of thousands of flower-tossing Berliners.

Ordered to Berlin by President Kennedy to beef up United States forces in the Divided City, the 1,500-man battle group moved from the Mannheim, Germany, area in a 50-mile convoy of 491 vehicles and trailers to join their allies in isolated West Berlin.

The battle group is commanded by Colonel Glover S. Johns, Jr., a 1931 graduate of Virginia Military Institute.

With the lead vehicle moving into the Soviet Zone of East Germany at 6:34 a.m. Sunday morning, advance elements of the convoy reached Berlin at noon. Divided into five march units, the convoy from Helmstedt stretched over 100 miles of East German autobahn.

While allied military traffic has moved through the East Zone and the control points since 1945, this was one of the biggest single troop movements since World War II over the life-line autobahn.

"A Job Well Done"

In a letter to Colonel Johns and all members of the battle group, General Bruce C. Clarke, Commander in Chief, United States Army, Europe, expressed his appreciation for "a good job, well done," saying, "your timely and effective reaction to unexpected orders . . . high state of training. . . . and professional competence . . . is in the very best traditions of the United States Army.

"In the short time of about 40 hours since you first received your orders at midnight, you made all necessary preparations, oriented your troops, and moved . . . your command and their equipement . . . a distance of 435 miles to join the United States Garrison in Berlin. This is an outstanding achievement in responsiveness, flexibility, rapid planning, and mobility.

"Please accept and extend to all concerned my congratulations and best wishes. I know that you and your command are ready for any missions that might lie ahead."

Enroute, the convoy was under close observation by uniformed and plainclothes East German police. Half-hidden by trees and bushes, the "VOPOs" watched the convoy's progress across communist territory. At the same time, a twin-engined Soviet jet patrolled the autobahn most of the time.

As the troops rolled into the city, other American and British soldiers were unloading armored vehicles that had arrived Saturday and Sunday by rail.

(Continued on page 2)

Battery of 105's Provides Punch In Support Role

The first American artillery unit to enter this city in 15 years convoyed across 110 miles of East German territory and through throngs of cheering Berliners Sunday to support Allied forces stationed here.

Battery A of the 8th Infantry Division's 2nd Howitzer Battalion, 12th Artillery, arrived in Berlin via autobahn from West Germany with the 1st Battle Group, 18th Infantry.

The unit left Baumholder, Germany, Saturday in response to an early morning alert and proceeded to the check point at Helmstedt before beginning the last portion of the trip to Berlin at 4:10 a.m. Sunday.

The battery, made up of towed 105 mm howitzers and attached forward observer personnel, is under the command of Captain John H. Richards.

The unit is a member of one of the Army's most decorated field artillery battalions, "the Vikings," presently commanded by Major Marion V. Baker. Constituted in June, 1916, as the 12th Field Artillery Regiment and organized a year later at Fort Myer, Va., as an element of the 2nd Division, the contingent was joined with the 503rd Field Artillery Battalion and the consolidated unit redesignated 12th FA Bn, November 1951.

Prior to being ordered to Berlin, the battery was undergoing extensive field training in preparation for its annual Army Training Test. The rest of the Viking element remained in Baumholder in training for its battalion test.

Sergeant First Class Warren D.

(Continued on page 2)

PMG Here on Inspection Tour

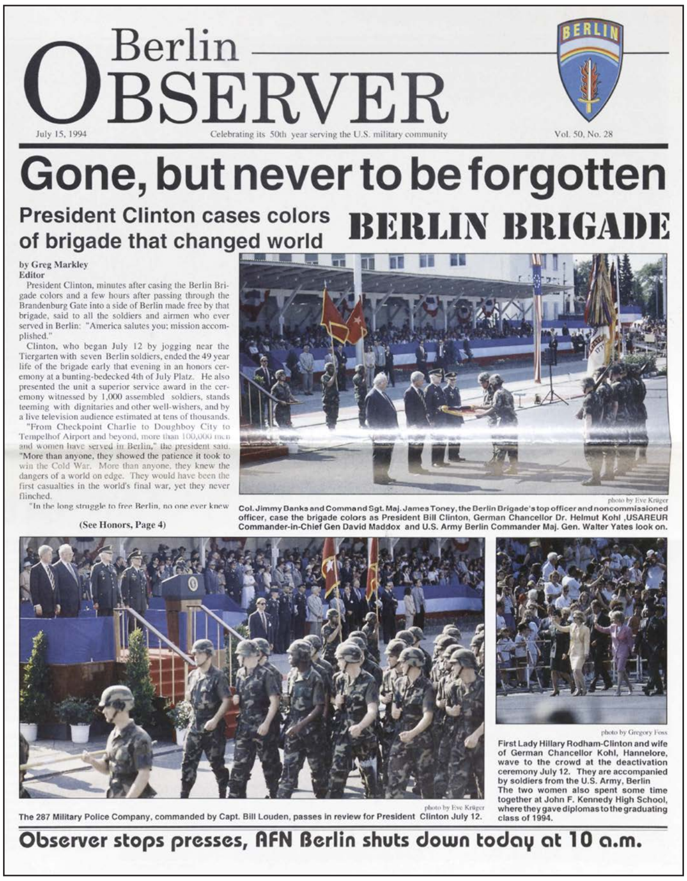
Major General Ralph Butchers, Provost Marshal General of the United States Army, now on a European tour of military police installations and facilities, arrived in Berlin Command this morning.

Accompanied by Brigadier General Edward F. Penaat, Provost Marshal, United States Army, Europe, Mrs. Butchers and Mrs. Penaat, the general will remain in the Divided City for three days, departing Sunday evening by rail.

During his stay General Butcher is slated to inspect the activities under control of the Provost Marshal, Berlin Command, and the 287th Military Police Company.

Other activities while here include briefings by the United States Commander's Office and Berlin Command, a helicopter tour of West Berlin, a tour of German Police Crime Lab[illegible] and a Wannsee water [illegible] German Police boat.

Front cover of *The Berlin Observer*, 25 August 1961, just after the Berlin Wall had gone up. (theberlinobserver.com)



Berlin
OBSERVER

July 15, 1994 Celebrating its 50th year serving the U.S. military community Vol. 50, No. 28

BERLIN

Gone, but never to be forgotten

President Clinton cases colors of brigade that changed world

BERLIN BRIGADE

by Greg Markley
Editor

President Clinton, minutes after casing the Berlin Brigade colors and a few hours after passing through the Brandenburg Gate into a side of Berlin made free by that brigade, said to all the soldiers and airmen who ever served in Berlin: "America salutes you; mission accomplished."

Clinton, who began July 12 by jogging near the Tiergarten with seven Berlin soldiers, ended the 49 year life of the brigade early that evening in an honors ceremony at a bunting-bedecked 4th of July Platz. He also presented the unit a superior service award in the ceremony witnessed by 1,000 assembled soldiers, stands teeming with dignitaries and other well-wishers, and by a live television audience estimated at tens of thousands.

"From Checkpoint Charlie to Doughboy City to Tempelhof Airport and beyond, more than 100,000 men and women have served in Berlin," the president said. "More than anyone, they showed the patience it took to win the Cold War. More than anyone, they knew the dangers of a world on edge. They would have been the first casualties in the world's final war, yet they never flinched.

"In the long struggle to free Berlin, no one ever knew

(See Honors, Page 4)

photo by Eve Krüger

Col. Jimmy Banks and Command Sgt. Maj. James Toney, the Berlin Brigade's top officer and noncommissioned officer, case the brigade colors as President Bill Clinton, German Chancellor Dr. Helmut Kohl ,USAREUR Commander-in-Chief Gen David Maddox and U.S. Army Berlin Commander Maj. Gen. Walter Yates look on.

photo by Eve Krüger

The 287 Military Police Company, commanded by Capt. Bill Louden, passes in review for President Clinton July 12.

photo by Gregory Foss

First Lady Hillary Rodham-Clinton and wife of German Chancellor Kohl, Hannelore, wave to the crowd at the deactivation ceremony July 12. They are accompanied by soldiers from the U.S. Army, Berlin The two women also spent some time together at John F. Kennedy High School, where they gave diplomas to the graduating class of 1994.

Observer stops presses, AFN Berlin shuts down today at 10 a.m.

Front cover of the last issue of *The Berlin Observer*, 15 July 1994. (theberlinobserver.com)

Baseball competition at Andrews Barracks, 1971. (R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com)

Living in West Berlin

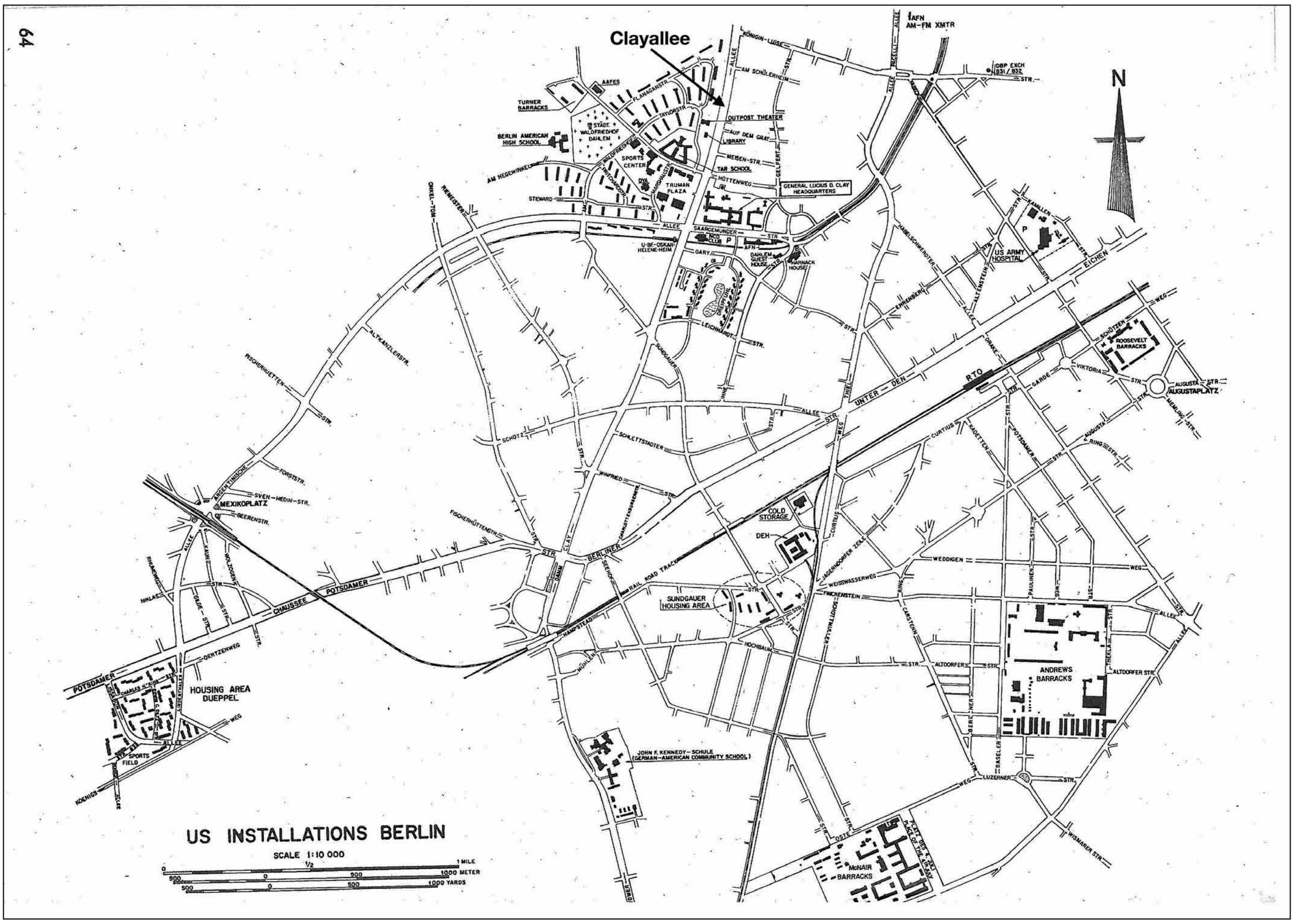
As with most permanent US bases on foreign soil, the facilities for military personnel stationed there were excellent, a real home-from-home, with every possible amenity. The main difference for those stationed in Berlin, however, was the presence of the Wall and the elaborate arrangements to get in and out of the city. Also, in the relatively tight confines of the American Sector, servicemen and their families were more integrated with the local population than perhaps at the sprawling mega-bases in West Germany, where it was sometimes hard to tell what country you were in. However, once you had got to the city, there was everything you needed: shops, schools, top-class medical facilities, all kinds of entertainment, the delights of Grunewald and Lake Havel, and a vibrant social scene.

The Berlin Brigade had its own weekly newspaper, which was published by the Berlin Command. It was first published as an information sheet on 28 July 1945. It went through various names as the command structure in the city developed. The first proper newspaper was published on 25 September 1945 by US Headquarters Berlin District and Headquarters First Airborne Army called the *Berlin Sentinel*. On 17 November 1945 the paper was renamed *The Grooper* after it was taken over by Group Control Council. With the redesignation of the Group Control Council to the Office of Military Government of the United States, the paper was renamed the *OMGUS Observer* on 12 April 1946. In November 1946, OMGUS and the Berlin District were consolidated, and the paper became *The Berlin Observer*. The final edition was published on 15 July 1994 as the US Army were pulling out of the city.

There was plenty of entertainment available to US service personnel and their families. American Forces Network (AFN) broadcast television and radio programmes for the US garrison, which were also popular with West Berliners and East Berliners who could pick up the signal (RIAS, Radio in the American Sector was a different organisation with a propaganda brief, broadcasting to West Berliners and, to the annoyance of the East Berlin authorities, large parts of East Germany). AFN began broadcasting on 4 August 1945 with George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*. Initially programming was only for a few hours a day, but during the Berlin Airlift they broadcast around the clock. Following the construction of the Berlin Wall, they resumed 24-hour radio programming on AM and FM, and TV schedules from the end of the school day and all evening, with extended hours at weekends. With a mix of local, national (US) and international news, music, children's programming, local interest and public information, the presenters became household names within the tight community of the Berlin garrison. During the Berlin Airlift, American pilots flying their Douglas C-47 Skytrain and C-54 Skymasters loaded with supplies bound for the airfield at Tempelhof, tuned their radios in to AFN Berlin due to the transmitting tower's proximity to the airfield. The station had three sites in the city, a radio studio on Podbielskiallee, a TV studio on Saargemünder Straße, opposite the headquarters complex, and a transmitter station on Pacelliallee. The broadcasts continued until the station closed on 15 July 1994 – the final record played was *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

The Outpost Theater was the main cinema for the US community in the city, built in an art-deco style between 1952 and 1953, and situated just along from the Truman Plaza. It originally could seat up to 750 people and was used for concerts and shows as well as movies. The American national anthem was played before each screening and if the cinemagoer arrived late, they were greated by a neon sign saying 'National Anthem is playing now. Please wait.' Next to the cinema was the main garrison library containing around 50,000 books, the Major Arthur D. Nicholson Jr. Memorial Library, or Nicholson Memorial Library for short.[12] After the US forces left Berlin in 1994, the theatre and library became part of the AlliertenMuseum.[13]

For officers, the social calendar within the garrison was quite prescriptive, with strict etiquette to be followed: the *Berlin Brigade Social Handbook* was issued to new officers detailing what was expected of them and their wives (the assumption was that the officer was male) – 'a lady does not remove her gloves when shaking


64
Clayallee
AFN AM–FM XMTR
N
TURNER BARRACKS
AAFES
BERLIN AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL
STÄDT. WALDFRIEDHOF DAHLEM
SPORTS CENTER
TRUMAN PLAZA
OUTPOST THEATER
LIBRARY
TAR SCHOOL
GENERAL LUCIUS D. CLAY HEADQUARTERS
NCO CLUB
AFN
DAHLEM GUEST HOUSE
HARNACK HOUSE
US ARMY HOSPITAL
ROOSEVELT BARRACKS
RTO
AUGUSTAPLATZ
COLD STORAGE
DEH
SUNDGAUER HOUSING AREA
ANDREWS BARRACKS
JOHN F. KENNEDY–SCHULE (GERMAN–AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL)
McNAIR BARRACKS
MEXIKOPLATZ
HOUSING AREA DUEPPEL
SPORTS FIELD
US INSTALLATIONS BERLIN
SCALE 1:10 000

Excellent map showing the US installations in West Berlin. (Lutz Griesbach, guardbattalion.de)

Facilities and amenities to the west of Clayallee –
- Turner Barracks
- AAFES
- Truman Plaza
- Sports Center

Dependent Youth Activities (DYA, formerly American Youth Activities, AYA)
- Berlin-American High School
- Outpost Theater
- Nicholson Library
- TAR School
- BB Housing Area

Facilities and amenities to the east of Clayallee –
- General Lucius D. Clay Headquarters
- NCO Club (Checkpoint Club)
- AFN Studios
- Dahlem Guest House
- Harnack House (Officers Club)
- Dreipfuhl Housing Area (Dreipfuhl translates as Three Puddles!)

Northeast corner of map –
- US Army Hospital, Berlin
- Roosevelt Barracks
- RTO

Centre of map –
- Sundgauer Housing Area
- DEH

South of Map –
- John F. Kennedy Schule
- McNair Barracks

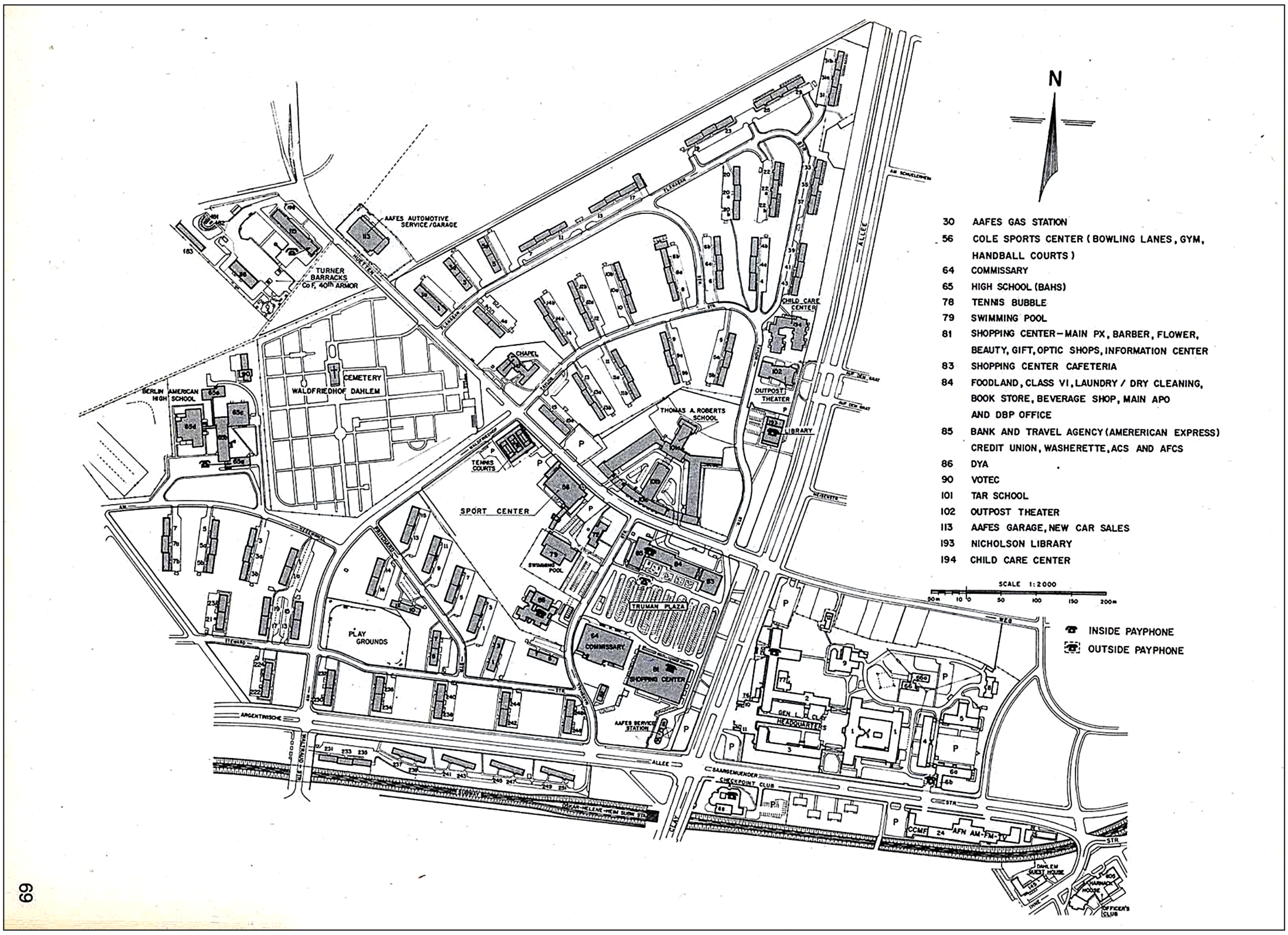
Southeast corner of map –
- Andrews Barracks

Southwest corner of map –
- Düppel Housing Area

The Pückler Housing Area is not shown on the map but is north of the Headquarters complex to the west of Clayallee.

hands, but never fails to remove them when smoking, eating or drinking.'[14]

Social life for the officers of the Berlin Brigade revolved around Harnack House, the officer's club just across the road from the headquarters complex, and the Golf and Country Club in Wannsee.[15] Sailing on the Großer Wannsee was a popular pastime. Non-commissioned officers had the Checkpoint Club, which was on the corner of Clayallee and Saargemünder Straße. The main bar


N
30 AAFES GAS STATION
56 COLE SPORTS CENTER (BOWLING LANES, GYM, HANDBALL COURTS)
64 COMMISSARY
65 HIGH SCHOOL (BAHS)
78 TENNIS BUBBLE
79 SWIMMING POOL
81 SHOPPING CENTER – MAIN PX, BARBER, FLOWER, BEAUTY, GIFT, OPTIC SHOPS, INFORMATION CENTER
83 SHOPPING CENTER CAFETERIA
84 FOODLAND, CLASS VI, LAUNDRY / DRY CLEANING, BOOK STORE, BEVERAGE SHOP, MAIN APO AND DBP OFFICE
85 BANK AND TRAVEL AGENCY (AMERERICAN EXPRESS) CREDIT UNION, WASHERETTE, ACS AND AFCS
86 DYA
90 VOTEC
101 TAR SCHOOL
102 OUTPOST THEATER
113 AAFES GARAGE, NEW CAR SALES
193 NICHOLSON LIBRARY
194 CHILD CARE CENTER
SCALE 1:2000
50m 10 0 50 100 150 200m
☎ INSIDE PAYPHONE
☎ OUTSIDE PAYPHONE
AAFES AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE/GARAGE
TURNER BARRACKS Co F, 40th ARMOR
CEMETERY WALDFRIEDHOF DAHLEM
BERLIN AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL
CHAPEL
TENNIS COURTS
SPORT CENTER
THOMAS A. ROBERTS SCHOOL
CHILD CARE CENTER
OUTPOST THEATER
LIBRARY
SWIMMING POOL
PLAY GROUNDS
TRUMAN PLAZA
COMMISSARY
SHOPPING CENTER
AAFES SERVICE STATION
GEN. L. CLAY HEADQUARTERS
ARGENTINISCHE
ALLEE
SAARGEMUENDER
CHECKPOINT CLUB
AFN AM-FM-TV
DAHLEM GUEST HOUSE
OFFICER'S CLUB
69

Detailed map of the US installations and housing west of Clayallee (Lutz Griesbach, guardbattalion.de)

was called Club 48, and each of the 48 tables represented one of the States of the USA. In 1959, Alaska and Hawaii became the 49th and 50th states of the Union, so they had to add two tables and call it Club 50. Enlisted men had numerous bars in and around their barracks, and the bright lights of the Kurfürstendamm could offer anything a young serviceman could possibly imagine.

If authorised, US servicemen and their families were permitted to visit East Berlin to see the sites, visit the museums, go shopping or take advantage of the world-class opera and orchestras, all at very favourable exchange rates. As one of the four occupying powers, American soldiers and airmen had the right to go anywhere in East Berlin, and the East Germans were happy to take their hard currency dollars. Servicemen had to wear their Class A uniforms while in the East but removed their nametags to prevent the *Stasi* from gathering personal information about American personnel. All Western personnel had to cross at Checkpoint CHARLIE, where they would be signed out and signed back in. Personnel with top security clearances, however, were not allowed into East Berlin, nor along the road access corridor from West Germany to West Berlin (they had to fly). Unlike other postings in the 'Zone' (the US Zone of West Germany), servicemen in uniform could travel for free on public transport throughout West Berlin.

Every year the American authorities in Berlin put on a lavish cultural festival called the German-American *Volksfest*, which attempted to show the people of West Berlin a little slice of American pie. Each year they had a theme (the Mayflower, Alamo, Las Vegas, the Old West) and twinned with a city (1965 Sacramento, CA; 1967 St. Augustine, FL; 1968 New Orleans, LA; 1969 Los Angeles, CA; etc), building a replica 'village' which showcased food, fashion, culture, entertainment, and attractions associated with that theme/city, as interpreted by the *Volksfest* Committee. The St. Augustine festival celebrated the Spanish heritage of the city and included a recreation of the Alamo, San Francisco celebrated its maritime heritage and famous Chinatown, while New Orleans had jazz, jazz, and more jazz. The first German-American *Volksfest* in 1961 was rudely interrupted by the construction of the Berlin Wall, and was promptly cancelled, but it was back in 1962 with a Wild West theme. These events were hugely popular with the civilian and military community alike and played an important role in building strong relationships with the garrison's host city. They also raised a lot of money for local charities.

Sport was at the centre of military life, and the Berlin garrison had some excellent facilities. The Cole Sports Center next to the Truman Plaza had all the usual facilities including tennis courts and a pool and all the barracks had their own gyms. There was also an indoor tennis 'dome' on Saargemünder Straße and an Olympic-size pool at Andrews Barracks. In true American style, there were bowling alleys at McNair and Andrews Barracks and at the Cole Sports Center.

Servicemen and their families could buy anything they needed from the shops located within the Truman Plaza complex. Shops within the complex included a commissary (grocery store), the Post Exchange (PX), a branch of the American Express Bank and Credit Union, an Army and German post office, the Stars & Stripes bookshop, a Burger King and various other snack bars, and some smaller shops such as a barbers and florist. The PX was a feature of all US military bases and allowed service families to buy all matter of things (furniture, appliances, electronics etc) at tax-free or concessionary prices. The PX (or BX, Base Exchange) in Berlin was called the AAFES Four Seasons (AAFES, Army Air Force Exchange Store). As with most US military facilities, the Plaza was fenced off from the wider population, and access was controlled by German civilian guards from the 6941st Guard Battalion. The AAFES warehouse was on the corner of Teltower Damm and Beeskowdamm, just up from the Berlin Wall at Teltow. There was even an AAFES new car dealership right next to Turner Barracks and servicemen could fill their cars up at the AAFES petrol station on Hüttenweg.

Berlin followed the pattern of all large US garrisons and had well-funded schools for the children of the servicemen stationed in the city. Thomas A. Roberts (TAR) School was the garrison primary school and was opened in 1953 to accommodate the growing number of children in the city. It was located right at the hub of the US garrison, close to the headquarters complex, opposite the amenities around Truman Plaza and next to service housing. Students then went on to the Berlin-American High School (BAHS), which was a purpose-built $2-million structure, opened in 1965. It was situated across the large Dahlem cemetery from Truman Plaza and was next to Turner Barracks. The buildings were complete with 26 general purpose classrooms and a substantial library. The schools had around 2,000 pupils and about 50 teachers at any one time. Extra-curricular activities took place under the auspices of an organisation called Dependent Youth Activities (DYA, formerly called the American Youth Activities, AYA), which ran after-school clubs, sports activities, trips, and cultural events for the young dependents of servicemen. Located next to the Truman Plaza complex, the DYA made use of the facilities at the nearby Cole Sports Center and swimming pool.

Visiting servicemen and official visitors were accommodated in various establishments around the city. The Harnack House officer's club offered accommodation like a British officers mess would do, and across the road was the Dahlem Guest House where visiting other ranks and their families could be accommodated. VIPs would stay in the Commandant's Guest Residence (CGR) Guest Villa on Am Sandwerder, Wannsee, right next to the American Yacht Club and the Großer Wannsee.

Although most of these facilities were common to US bases worldwide, Berlin had a unique feel about it thanks to the integration with the local population, the proximity of Grunewald and the lakes, and the island mentality brought on by the Berlin Wall. For many American servicemen and their families, a posting to West Berlin was one of the highlights of their career.

CONCLUSION

Between 1945 and 1994, the United States maintained a substantial military presence in West Berlin. For the first 45 years, it was an occupation force, a direct legacy of the complicated and dangerous negotiations immediately following the end of Second World War. Nobody sitting around the conference table at Potsdam in July 1945 ever imagined that the Allies would remain in the city for so long. The Western Allies naively hoped that the former Third Reich could successfully be rehabilitated into an independent democratic nation, able to contribute to the rebuilding of Europe which was devastated by six years of war. They also felt (Truman especially, Churchill less so) that Stalin was someone who they could 'do business' with, and the wartime alliance that defeated Hitler would continue. Stalin, on the other hand, desperately feared a resurgent Germany and needed to shore up his Iron Curtain, the ring of steel between Western Europe and his Soviet Union. His occupation zone (which would become the DDR) was a key part of this buffer zone, and the city of Berlin was in the middle of it. His plan was for the Allies to leave so the city could be absorbed into his puppet regime in East Germany. The West had other ideas and that stand off lasted until 1994 when the Russians finally left Germany and the Allies could withdraw from the city.

During those 49 years in the city, the Americans established a thriving community that despite the transient nature of military postings became more integrated with their hosts than most US overseas bases. The US military may have had several major installations in West Berlin, but they also lived in amongst the West Berliners, creating a unique symbiotic relationship between garrison and local population. The presence of the Allied forces ensured the very survival of the city and the democratic way of life for the two million or so West Berliners – there are not too many cities in the world that can boast an 11,000–12,000 strong military garrison whose sole purpose is to protect it.

The US administration, garrison and their dependents gave a lot to the city, both economically and culturally, and apart from a few vocal dissenters, the overwhelming view of the US (and the other Allies) presence by the local population was positive. The legacy of the incredible logistical feat of the 1948/49 Berlin Airlift lasted right through the Cold War and the building (and eventual fall) of the Berlin Wall was a shared experience for troops and civilians alike.

Tensions ebbed and flowed over the years with several flashpoints (1948, 1958, and 1961 in particular), leading to détente and a certain normalising of the very abnormal, but thankfully the Berlin Brigade's fearsome firepower was never used in anger. There was never any doubt that the Allied forces (of which the US was by far the strongest) could only hold the city for a matter of days against the onslaught of massive Soviet and East German force (post-reunification access to secret plans revealed that the task of taking West Berlin was mostly assigned to the East Germans, not the Soviets), but those few days would have given Washington D.C., London, and Paris valuable time for diplomacy, negotiation and mobilisation. As it was, the strong presence and regular demonstrations of the strength of the combined Berlin garrison helped keep the peace during the long years of the Cold War, providing a strong deterrent to the Warsaw Pact and an ongoing reassurance to the citizens of West Berlin, the Island City.

Volume 4 in the *Cold War Berlin: An Island City* mini-series explores the fighting capability of the US forces in Berlin as they prepared for a potential war against the Warsaw Pact. It looks at the infantry, armour and artillery components of the Berlin Brigade, the tactical and strategic plans for the defence of the city, and how the Soviets and East Germans planned to take back the western sectors.

APPENDICES

I

US Military Governors/High Commissioners/Ambassadors, Germany

Office of Military Government, United States, OMGUS			
Military Governor	**Rank**	**Start of appointment**	**End of appointment**
Dwight D. Eisenhower	General of the Army	8 May 1945	10 November 1945
George S. Patton†	General	11 November 1945	25 November 1945
Joseph T. McNarney	General	26 November 1945	5 January 1947
Lucius D. Clay	General	6 January 1947	14 May 1949
Clarence R. Huebner†	Lt. General	15 May 1949	21 September 1949 *
US High Commission for Germany, HICOG, USHCG			
High Commissioner		**Start of appointment**	**End of appointment**
John J. McClory	High Commissioner	21 September 1949 **	1 August 1952
Walter J. Donnelly	High Commissioner	1 August 1952	11 December 1952
Samuel Reber†	High Commissioner	11 December 1952	10 February 1953
James B. Conant	High Commissioner	10 February 1953	5 May 1955***
US Embassy, Bonn			
US Ambassador to Germany[1]		**Start of appointment**	**End of appointment**
James B. Conant	Ambassador	14 May 1955****	19 February 1957
David K. E. Bruce	Ambassador	17 April 1957	29 October 1959
Walter C. Dowling	Ambassador	3 December 1959	21 April 1963
George C. McGhee	Ambassador	18 May 1963	21 May 1968
Henry Cabot Lodge Jr.	Ambassador	27 May 1968	14 January 1969
Kenneth Rush	Ambassador	22 July 1969	20 February 1972
Martin J. Hillenbrand	Ambassador	27 June 1972	18 October 1976
Walter J. Stoessel Jr.	Ambassador	27 October 1976	5 January 1981
Arthur F. Burns	Ambassador	30 June 1981	16 May 1985
Richard R. Burt	Ambassador	16 September 1985	17 February 1989
Vernon A. Walters	Ambassador	24 April 1989	18 August 1991

Change in leadership prompted by:
* Dissolution of US Military Government
** Creation of the Allied High Commission
*** Dissolution of the Allied High Commission
**** Establishment of diplomatic relations with the Federal Republic of Germany
† Acting

II

US Commandants in Berlin[2]

A	B	General	Start date
1		Major General Floyd L. Parks	4 July 1945
2		Major General James M. Gavin	9 August 1945
3		Major General Ray W. Barker	October 1945
4		Major General Frank A. Keating	7 May 1946
5		Major General George P. Hays	September 1947
6		Brigadier General Frank L. Howley	1 December 1947

7	1	Major General Maxwell D. Taylor[3]	31 August 1949
8	2	Major General Lemuel Mathewson	1 February 1951
9	3	Major General Thomas S. Timberman	3 January 1953
10	4	Major General George Honnen	5 August 1954
11	5	Major General Charles L. Dasher	10 September 1955
12	6	Major General Barksdale Hamlett	3 June 1957
13	7	Major General Ralph M. Osborne	15 December 1959
14	8	Major General Albert Watson II	5 May 1961
15	9	Major General James H. Polk	2 January 1963
16	10	Major General John F. Franklin, Jr.	1 September 1964
17	11	Major General Robert G. Fergusson	3 June 1967
18	12	Major General George M. Seignious II	28 February 1970
19	13	Major General William W. Cobb	12 May 1971
20	14	Major General Sam S. Walker	10 June 1974
21	15	Major General Joseph C. McDonough	11 August 1975
22	16	Major General Calvert P. Benedict	7 June 1978
23	17	Major General James G. Boatner	5 July 1981
24	18	Major General John H. Mitchell	27 June 1984
25	19	Major General Raymond E. Haddock	1 June 1988–3 October 1990

Column A indicates the unbroken succession of US Commandant of Berlin, while column B shows the succession of United States Commanders, Berlin (USCOB).

III

US Garrison/Brigade Commanders[4]

BG	BB	Commander	Start date
1	-	Colonel Bryan L. Milburn	1 November 1946
2	-	Brigadier General Cornelius E. Ryan	20 March 1947
3	-	Colonel Robert A. Willard	21 May 1947
4	-	Brigadier General James T. Duke	22 May 1949
5	-	Brigadier General Maurice W. Daniel	23 June 1950
6	-	Brigadier General Charles F. Craig	19 July 1953
7	-	Brigadier General Francis T. Pachler	8 May 1954
8	-	Major General Hugh P. Harris	8 December 1955
9	-	Brigadier General George T. Duncan	1 October 1956
10	-	Brigadier General Charles S. D'Orsa	5 September 1958
11	-	Brigadier General Charles E. Johnson III	15 January 1960
12	1	Brigadier General Frederick O. Hartel[5]	30 July 1961
13	2	Brigadier General John H. Hay, Jr.	5 July 1964
14	3	Brigadier General James T. Baldwin	2 September 1966
15	4	Brigadier General Samuel McC. Goodwin	18 November 1967
16	5	Brigadier General Harold I. Hayward	8 November 1969
17	6	Brigadier General Raymond O. Miller	30 July 1971
18	7	Brigadier General Robert D. Stevenson	3 March 1973
19	8	Brigadier General R. Dean Tice	9 September 1974
20	9	Brigadier General Walter E. Adams	11 June 1976

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21	10	Brigadier General William C. Moore	25 August 1978
22	11	Brigadier General John E. Rogers	1 August 1980
23	12	Major General Leroy N. Suddath, Jr.	17 November 1981
24	13	Major General Thomas N. Griffin, Jr.	25 July 1984
25	14	Major General Jack D. Woodall	3 June 1986
26	15	Major General C. G. Marsh	19 August 1987
27	16	Major General Sidney Shachnow	15 December 1989
28	17	Brigadier General Walter H. Yates	14 August 1991
29	18	Colonel Jimmy Banks	19 September 1992–12 July 1994

The BG column indicates the unbroken succession of Berlin garrison commanders, while the BB column shows the succession of Berlin Brigade commanders.

IV

Tempelhof Airbase Commanders[6]

	Commander	**Start date**	**Notes**
1	Colonel William G. Booth	July 1945	
2	Colonel Henry W. Door	September 1947	Berlin Airlift
3	Colonel Carl Feldman	August 1948	Berlin Airlift
4	Colonel William H. Delacy	January 1949	Berlin Airlift
5	Colonel John E. Barr	April 1949	Berlin Airlift
6	Colonel John V. Hart	July 1951	
7	Colonel Roy L. Jones	March 1953	
8	Colonel Wesley H. Vernon	December 1954	
9	Colonel Rex W. Beach	August 1956	
10	Colonel Edward C. Tates	May 1959	
11	Colonel Kenneth L. Glassburn	July 1960	Commander during the building of the Berlin Wall
12	Colonel Paul H. Kenney	August 1963	
13	Colonel Joseph D. White	August 1965	
14	Colonel Thomas A. Personett	July 1966	
15	Colonel Clark A. Tate	July 1968	
16	Colonel David B. Smith	December 1969	
17	Colonel Gail S. Halvorsen	February 1970	The 'Candy Bomber', see *Volume 1*
18	Colonel Mayron G. Smith	February 1974	
19	Colonel Donald W. Lajeunesse	July 1976	
20	Colonel Vernon L. Frye	June 1979	
21	Colonel Gary E. Spohn	July 1981	
22	Colonel Lonnie R. Spivey	June 1984	
23	Colonel Dieter W. Satz	June 1987	Commander when the Berlin Wall came down
24	Colonel Joseph W. Sellmann	June 1990	
25	Colonel Gary L. Linder	February 1991 – June 1993	

V

Berlin Brigade ORBAT

When the US troops entered Berlin in July 1945, no-one could have predicted that they would remain in the city for almost 50 years. During this time, the disposition of these forces went through countless changes as the threat became clearer and the US military adapted to meet it. Uniquely, the structure needed to be fully self-sufficient and deliver a meaningful defence for the city and it consequently developed into a large and complex organisation. This table is compiled from numerous sources, and the author has attempted to validate every entry from multiple sources, preferably from the official records where available. Some of the more obscure units, especially in the area of support services are single sourced and are marked accordingly. Two reference sources are worth mentioning: Walter Elkins' excellent website usarmygermany.com is a veritable treasure trove of information from his research, official sources, and from personal reminiscences; the German language book *Alliierte in Berlin 1945–1994* by Friedrich Jeschonnek, Dieter Riedel, and William Durie (BWV Berliner Wissenschafts-Verlag, 2002) takes a detailed look at the three Allied occupation forces and has also been a valuable reference tool.

US Forces, Berlin ORBAT

This table only covers units mentioned in this volume, other units serving with the US military in West Berlin are covered in later volumes in the *Cold War Berlin* mini-series. Within each section, the entries are ordered by start year and then finish year.

Units	Branch	Location	Dates
COMMANDS			
European Theater of Operations, US Army (ETOUSA)	Army	Versailles	1945
Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAEF)	Joint	Frankfurt	1945
Berlin Military District (reports to USFET)	Army	HQ	1945–1946
United States Forces, European Theater (USFET)	Joint	Frankfurt	1945–1947
OMGUS	Government	HQ/Clay HQ	1945–1949
Berlin Command (reports to USFET/EUCOM)	Army	HQ	1946–1948
US Constabulary	Army	Bamberg/Heidelberg/ Stuttgart-Vaihingen	1946–1952
European Command (EUCOM)	Army	Frankfurt/Heidelberg	1947–1952
Berlin Military Post (reports to EUCOM)	Army	HQ	1948–1952
High Commission for Occupied Germany (HICOG)	Government	Bonn	1949–1955
Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) (NATO)*	NATO	Paris/Mons	1951–Present
United States European Command (USEUCOM) (Unified Command) #1	Army	Frankfurt	1952
Berlin Command (reports to USAREUR)	Army	HQ	1952–1961
United States European Command (USEUCOM) #2 (Pentomic)	Army	Paris	1952–1967
United States Army, Europe (USAREUR)**	Army	Heidelberg	1952–1994
US Embassy	Government	Bonn***	1955–
Berlin Brigade (reports to USAREUR/Headquarters, US Army, Europe, and Seventh Army)	Army	HQ/Clay HQ	1961–1994
Headquarters, US Army, Europe, and Seventh Army (Merger of USAREUR and Seventh Army Headquarters)	Army	Heidelberg	1966–
United States European Command (USEUCOM) #3	Joint	Stuttgart	1967–
INFANTRY			
Preliminary Reconnaissance Party for Berlin	Army	McNair	1945
Military Government Detachment A1A1	Army	McNair	1945
2nd 'Hell on Wheels' Armored Division	Army	McNair	1945
713th Military Police Battalion	Army	McNair	1945
325th Glider Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division	Army	McNair	1945

Units (*continued*)	**Branch**	**Location**	**Dates**
504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division	Army	McNair	1945
505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division	Army	McNair	1945
309th Infantry Regiment, 78th 'Lightning' Infantry Division	Army	McNair	1945–1946
310th Infantry Regiment, 78th 'Lightning' Infantry Division	Army	McNair	1945–1946
311th Infantry Regiment, 78th 'Lightning' Infantry Division	Army	McNair	1945–1946
3rd Infantry Regiment, the 'Old Guard'	Army	McNair	1946
3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division	Army	Roosevelt	1946–1950
7800th Infantry Platoon (Drill Display Team)	Army	Andrews	1947–1950
7873rd Infantry Platoon (Honor Guard)	Army	Andrews	1947–1950
CONSTABULARY			
1st Berlin District Constabulary Squadron (Provisional)	Army	Patton/Oliver	1945–1946
Berlin District Composite Constabulary Squadron (Provisional)	Army	Oliver	1946
16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate)	Army	Oliver	1946–1950
SIGNALS			
3110th Signal Support Battalion†	Army	Andrews	1946–1948
57th Signal Service Company	Army	Andrews	1946–1950
Signal Support Company	Army	Andrews	1950–1959
US Army Communications Agency, Europe (Berlin Office)†	Army	Andrews	1959–1974
592nd Signal Company (Support)	Army	Andrews	1959–1994
SUPPORT UNITS			
7780th Composite Service Battalion	Army	Andrews	1945
7781st Headquarters and Service Battalion Army Unit (HSB 7781st AU), 6th Infantry Regiment	Army	Andrews	1945–1956
553rd Quartermaster Group†	Army	Andrews	1945–1946
95th Quartermaster Battalion†	Army	Andrews	1945–1946
7652nd Quartermaster Company†	Army	Andrews	1945–1946
Detachment C, 11th Traffic Regulation Group (TRG)†	Army	Andrews	1945–1947
7706th American Forces Network Company†	Army	Andrews	1945–1949
7798th Traffic Regulation Detachment†	Army	Andrews	1945–1949
US Mission	Government	HQ/Clay HQ	1945–1990
US Consulate	Government	HQ/Clay HQ	1945–1990
US Army Transportation Corps, RTO (Rail Transport Office)	Army	Lichterfelde-West	1945–1994
298th US Army Band	Army	Andrews	1945–1994
7782nd Special Troops Battalion†	Army	Andrews	1945–1994
68th Army Postal Unit†	Army	Andrews	1945–1994
283rd Quartermaster Refrigeration Company†	Army	Andrews	1946–1950
204th Ordnance Battalion†	Army	Andrews	1946–1948
248th Ordnance Platoon†	Army	Andrews	1946–1948
585th Ordnance Company†	Army	Andrews	1946–1948
874th Ordnance Company†	Army	Andrews	1946–1948

Units (*continued*)	**Branch**	**Location**	**Dates**
34th Quartermaster Depot Company†	Army	Andrews	1946–1950
7783rd Ordnance Battalion†	Army	Andrews	1946–1950
7852nd Quartermaster Company†	Army	Andrews	1946–1950
7784th Motor Transport Battalion†	Army	Andrews	1946–1950
7807th Motor Transport Battalion†	Army	Andrews	1946–1951
Claims Office Team†	Army	Andrews	1946–1953
7706th American Forces Network (AFN) Detachment†	Army	Andrews	1949–1959
508th Transportation truck Company†	Army	Andrews	1950–1953
501st Transportation Company†		Andrews	1954–1958
US Army Reserve Berlin†	Army	Clay HQ	1954–1980
US Army Special Munitions Support Detachment†	Army	Andrews	1958–1968
US Army Element American Forces Network (AFN), Berlin	Army	Andrews	1959–1994
American Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS), Berlin	Army	Andrews	1962–1994
Detachment 1, 7122nd Broadcasting Squadron	USAF	Tempelhof	1962–1994
US Army Inspection Team†	Army	Andrews	1955–1994
Special Troops (Headquarters)	Army	Andrews	1956–1979
Service Company	Army	Andrews	1958–1994
3860th Field Office USADIP (US Army Deserter Information Point)†	Army	Andrews	1962–1994
US Army Special Munitions Support Detachment (Provisional)†	Army	Andrews	1968–1994
Combat Support Battalion	Army	Andrews	1979–1994
8001st US Army Reserve†	Army	Clay HQ	1980–1994
43rd Chemical Detachment	Army	Andrews	1982–1994
MEDICAL			
10th Medical General Dispensary	Army	Various	1946–1950
101st General Hospital, Berlin	Army		1945–1950
279th Station Hospital, Berlin	Army		1945–1950
168th Medical Detachment (Veterinary Services)	Army		1945–1995
US Army Hospital, Berlin (USAHB)	Army		1950–1976
279th Medical Detachment, US Army Hospital, Berlin	Army		1950–1976
MEDDAC Berlin	Army		1976–1994
DENTAC Berlin	Army		1978–1994
MILITARY POLICE			
713th Military Police Battalion	Army	Andrews	1945
822nd Military Police Company	Army	Andrews	1945–1947
296th Military Police Company	Army	Andrews	1945–1947
759th Military Police Battalion	Army	Andrews	1945–1947
11th Criminal Investigation Detachment (CID)	Army	Andrews	1945–1958
7786th Prisoner Detachment	Army	Andrews	1946–1986
(Military Police) Helmstedt Detachment	Army	Andrews	1946–1961
7786th Prisoner Detachment	Army	Andrews	1946–1986
18th Military Police Service Detachment, F405	Army	Andrews	1947–1949
388th Military Police Service Platoon (Hospital)	Army	Andrews	1947–1949
759th Military Police Service Battalion	Army	Andrews	1947–1950

Units (*continued*)	**Branch**	**Location**	**Dates**
Company E, 759th Military Police Service Battalion	Army	Andrews	1949
62nd Military Police Highway Patrol Section	Army	Andrews	1949–1953
526th Military Police Company	Army	Andrews	1950
C Company, 382nd Military Police Battalion	Army	Andrews	1950
511th Military Police Platoon	Army	Andrews	1950
759th Military Police Battalion	Army	Andrews	1950–1953
272nd Military Police Company	Army	Andrews	1953–1958
287th Military Police Company	Army	Andrews	1953–1994
11th Police Detachment Investigation	Army	Andrews	1958–1962
Helmstedt Support Detachment	Army	Andrews	1961–1990
385th Military Police Battalion	Army	Andrews	1961
287th Military Police Company (Separate) Steinstücken Detachment	Army	Steinstücken	1961–1989
11th Criminal Investigation Detachment	Army	Andrews	1962–1994
Detachment F, 9th Military Police Group (Criminal Investigation)	Army	Andrews	1969–1974
RAILWAY POLICE			
D Company, 388th Military Police Service Battalion (Railway)	Army	Andrews	1945–1948
7747th Military Police Railway Security Detachment	Army	Andrews	1947–1948
Detachment F-3, 7747th Military Police Railway Security Group	Army	Andrews	1948–1951
540th Military Police Battalion (Railway)	Army	Andrews	1951–1956
570th Military Police Company (Railway)	Army	Andrews	1956–1964
Railway Platoon, 287th Military Police Company	Army	Andrews	1964–1994
CUSTOMS POLICE			
7751st Military Police Customs Unit, Berlin sub-post	Army	Andrews	1949–1952
11th Military Police Detachment (Customs)	Army	Andrews	1949–1974
Military Police Customs Unit (MPCU), Berlin sub-post	Army	Andrews	1952–1957
US Army Military Police Customs Unit	Army	Andrews	1957–1964
42nd Military Police Detachment (Customs) Berlin sub-post	Army	Andrews	1964–1968
42nd Military Police Customs Group (MPCG) Berlin sub-post	Army	Andrews	1968–1994
560th Military Police Company, 42nd Military Police Customs Group	Army	Andrews	1985–1994
CIVILIAN GUARDS			
126th Labor Service Center	Civilian	Roosevelt	1945–1950
Industrial Police	Civilian	N/A	1946–1955
Wachpolizei (*WaPo* or *WaPol*) – German civilian guards	Civilian	N/A	1947–1990
6901st Labor Service Area	Civilian	Roosevelt	1950–1952
6941st Labor Service Center	Civilian	Andrews/Roosevelt	1952–1969
6941st Guard Battalion (Labor Service)	Civilian	Roosevelt	1969–1980
6941st Guard Battalion	Civilian	Roosevelt	1980–1993
4012th Guard Company	Civilian	Roosevelt	1969–1993
4014th Guard Company	Civilian	Roosevelt	1969–1993
4077th Guard Company	Civilian	Roosevelt	1969–1993
4078th Guard Company	Civilian	Roosevelt	1969–1993

Units (*continued*)	**Branch**	**Location**	**Dates**
MOUNTED (Horse)			
78th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop (Horse), 78th Infantry Division	Army	Königsweg	1945–1946
Horse Platoon, 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate)	Army	Königsweg	1946–1950
Horse Platoon, 759th Military Police Battalion	Army	Königsweg	1950–1953
Horse Platoon, 287th Military Police Company	Army	Königsweg	1953–1958
AVIATION			
United States Army Air Forces (USAAF)	Army	Pentagon	1941–1948
852nd Engineer Aviation Battalion	Army	Tempelhof	1945
USAAF European Air Transport Service (EATS)	Army	Pentagon	1945–1947
United States Army Air Forces Station, Tempelhof	Army	Tempelhof	1945–1946
301st Troop Carrier Squadron	Army	Tempelhof	1945–1946
473rd Air Service Group (Recon)†	Army	Tempelhof	1945–1946
715th Air Material Group (Repair)†	Army	Tempelhof	1945–1946
891st Air Engineer Squadron (Construction)†	Army	Tempelhof	1945–1946
USAAF European Air Transport Service (EATS), Berlin Hub	Army	Tempelhof	1945–1947
1119th Military Police Company (Aviation)	Army	Tempelhof	1945–1948
483rd Air Service Group†	Army	Tempelhof	1945–1948
Berlin Office, US Army Courier Service/Security Courier Service	Army	Tempelhof	1945–1949
Tempelhof Army Air Base	USAF	Tempelhof	1946
47th Troop Carrier Squadron	Army	Tempelhof	1946–1947
808th Air Engineer Squadron (Construction)†	Army	Tempelhof	1946–1947
Tempelhof Air Base	USAF	Tempelhof	1946–1948
2925th Labor Service Company (Construction)†	Army	Tempelhof	1946–1948
4713rd Labor Service Company (Construction)†	Army	Tempelhof	1946–1948
United States Air Force	USAF	Pentagon	1947–1994
632nd Air Material Squadron (Repair)†	Army	Tempelhof	1947
HQ and Base Service Squadron*	Army	Tempelhof	1947
Tempelhof Base Unit†	USAF	Tempelhof	1947
USAF Air Transport Command (ATC)	USAF	Pentagon	1947–1948
USAF Air Transport Command (ATC), Berlin Hub	USAF	Tempelhof	1947–1948
100th Station Complement Squadron, Army Air Force	Army	Tempelhof	1947–1948
12th Troop Carrier Squadron	Army	Tempelhof	1947–1948
788th Army Air Force Base Unit (Telecoms)†	Army	Tempelhof	1947–1948
7908th Air Force Base Unit†	USAF	Tempelhof	1947–1948
53rd Troop Carrier Squadron	Army	Tempelhof	1948–1949
7350th Air Base Group	USAF	Tempelhof	1948–1949
7351st Maintenance and Supply Squadron†	USAF	Tempelhof	1948–1949
7352nd Air Police Squadron†	USAF	Tempelhof	1948–1949
7353rd Installation Squadron†	USAF	Tempelhof	1948–1949
Tempelhof Air Force Base	USAF	Tempelhof	1948–1950
1946th Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron (1946 AACS)	USAF	Tempelhof	1948–1961
Military Air Transport Service (MATS)	USAF	Pentagon	1948–1966
Military Air Transport Service (MATS), Berlin Hub	USAF	Tempelhof	1948–1966

Units (*continued*)	**Branch**	**Location**	**Dates**
7350th Base Complement Squadron	USAF	Tempelhof	1949–1954
Berlin Office, US Air Force Security Courier Service	USAF	Tempelhof	1949–1953
8925th Volunteer Air Reserve†	USAF	Tempelhof	1950–1954
Tempelhof Air Base	USAF	Tempelhof	1950–1958
Berlin Office, Armed Forces Courier Service (ARFCOS)	Joint	Tempelhof	1953–1987
7350th Air Base Squadron	USAF	Tempelhof	1954–1958
7350th Air Support Squadron	USAF	Tempelhof	1958–1964
Tempelhof Central Airport (TCA)	USAF	Tempelhof	1958–1991
1946th Communications Squadron	USAF	Tempelhof	1961–1984
7350th Support Group	USAF	Tempelhof	1964–1973
7350th Air Police Squadron†	USAF	Tempelhof	1965–1993
7350th Security Police Squadron*	USAF	Tempelhof	1965–1993
Military Airlift Command (MAC)	USAF	Pentagon	1966–1992
Military Airlift Command (MAC), Berlin Hub	USAF	Tempelhof	1966–1992
7350th Air Base Group	USAF	Tempelhof	1973 –1993
690th Security Group†	USAF	Tempelhof	1982–1990
1946th Information Systems Squadron	USAF	Tempelhof	1984–1986
1946th Communications Squadron	USAF	Tempelhof	1986–1993
Berlin Office, Defense Courier Service (DCS)	Joint	Tempelhof	1987–1994
Air Mobility Command (AMC)	USAF	Pentagon	1992–1994
Air Mobility Command (AMC), Berlin Hub	USAF	Tempelhof	1992–1994
Det 2, 435th Operations Group†	USAF	Tempelhof	1993–1994
Det 1, 435th Air Wing (Air Traffic Control)†	USAF	Tempelhof	1993–1994
CIA Berlin Operating Base (BOB)	CIA	Föhrenweg/HQ/Clay HQ	1947–1994
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE			
970th Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) Detachment (Region VIII)	Army	Andrews	1945–1948
S2 HQ Berlin District Command	Army	HQ	1945–1949
7771st Document Center/Berlin Document Center (BDC)	Various	Zehlendorf	1945–1994
7829th Military Intelligence Platoon	Army	Andrews	1946–1949
7970th Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) Group	Army	Andrews	1948–1949
66th Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) Detachment	Army	Andrews	1949–1952
7880th Military Intelligence Detachment	Army	Post Office	1949–1957
Land Liaison Office USAREUR, DCSI†	Army	HQ/Clay HQ	1949–1992
Det C, 7945th USAREUR Liaison Group†	Army	HQ	1950–1958
Det A, 7982nd USAREUR Liaison Group†	Army	HQ	1950–1958
Intelligence Office – COB	Army	HQ	1950–1961
66th Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) Group	Army	Andrews	1952–1959
513th Military Intelligence Group (Field Operations)	Army	Andrews	1952–1961
Berlin Support Team Strategic Survey Group (Nuclear Weapons)†	Army	HQ	1958–1959
Field Station A, US Army Strategic Survey, Europe (Nuclear Weapons)†	Army	HQ	1959–1961
513th Intelligence Corps Group	Army	Andrews	1961–1969
Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff (DCSI), Berlin Command	Army	HQ/Clay HQ	1961–1994
66th Intelligence Corps Group	Army	Andrews	1962–1969

Units (*continued*)	**Branch**	**Location**	**Dates**
Detachment C, US Systems Analysis Survey Group†	Army	HQ	1962–1979
Berlin Detachment, US Army Special Security Group (COB)†	Army	HQ/Clay HQ	1963–1994
66th Military Intelligence group	Army	Andrews	1966
766th Military Intelligence Detachment, 66th Military Intelligence Group	Army	Andrews	1966–1994
USAREUR Security Detachment, Berlin (USDB), 730th Military Intelligence Battalion†	Army	HQ	1968–1979
Berlin office, US Army Intelligence Center, Europe (USAICE)†	Army	HQ/Clay HQ	1969–1994
USAREUR Tactical Analysis and Security Detachment (TASD), 430th Military Intelligence Battalion†	Army	Clay HQ	1979–1992
REFUGEE PROCESSING and INTELLIGENCE			
Marienfelde Emergency Reception Center	Joint	Marienfelde	1953–1990
Registration Office for Foreigners	Army	Multiple	1953–1960
18th Military Intelligence Battalion	Army	JAROC-B	1953–1994
TAREX-Det (Target Exploitation Detachment)	Army	JAROC-B	1953–1994
Naval Intelligence Command, Task Unit 168.4.1	USN	JAROC-B	1958–1994
US Army Berlin-Joint Allied Refugee Operations Center, JAROC-DSCI-USAB, or JAROC-B	Army	JAROC-B	1960–1994
Defense Intelligence Agency	DIA	JAROC-B	1961–1994
US Army Technical Intelligence Center, Field Team No. 3	Army	JAROC-B	1962–1994
US Army Evaluation Unit	Army	JAROC-B	1962–1994
Quartermaster Material Study Detachment	Army	JAROC-B	1962–1970
Foreign Technology Division	Army	JAROC-B	1970–1992

* Within the NATO command structure, the various iterations of the Berlin Command came under SHAPE/Allied Forces Central Europe (AFCENT)/Allied Land Forces Central Europe (LANDCENT)/Central Army Group Central Europe (CENTAG) and then USAREUR

** Earlier iterations of USAREUR date back to 1942 ahead of D-Day

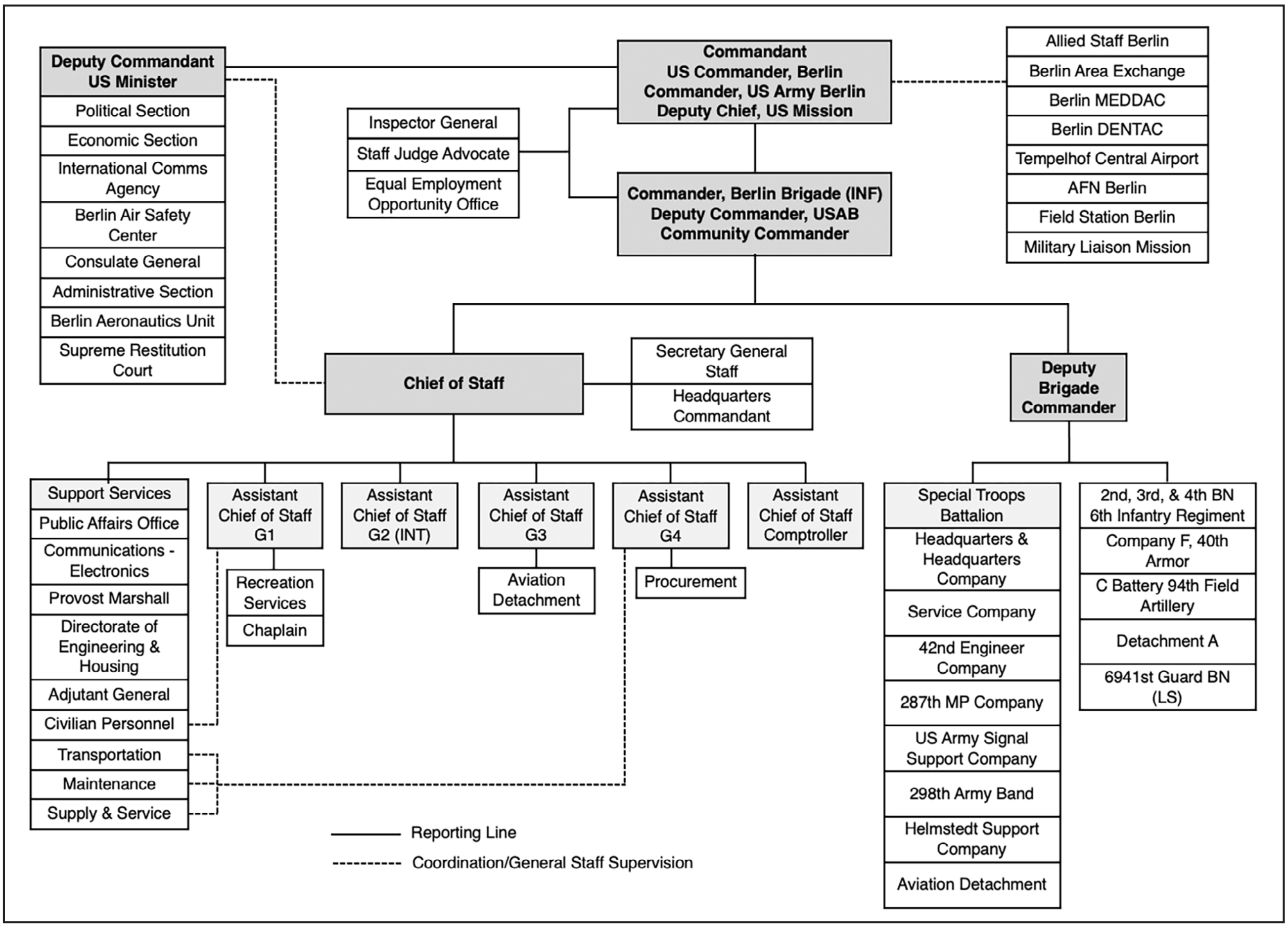
*** The US Embassy completed the transfer from Bonn to Berlin in 1999

† Single source or unable to verify

Important Berlin based units not represented in this table include: US Army 6th Infantry Regiment; 18th Infantry Regiment; 502nd Infantry Regiment; 40th Armor; 94th Field Artillery; 320th Field Artillery; 20th Engineer Battalion; 42nd Engineer Company; Detachment A/PSSE-B; US Army Security Agency (ASA); Air Force Security Service (USAFSS); and USAF Electronic Security Command (ESC). Details of all these and more will be included in future volumes in the *Cold War Berlin* mini-series.

Between 1956 and 1979, *The Berlin Observer* published the organisation charts of the Berlin Brigade which were produced by the Office of the Comptroller, Berlin Command, and these gave a detailed summary of the US Berlin Brigade ORBAT.[7] The charts illustrate just how complex the organisation needed to be to ensure it was self-sufficient and to deliver a meaningful defence for the city. Remember, there was a parallel structure for the Military Government. The Berlin Command Organization is summarised as follows:

By 1979, which is the last year an organisation chart was made publicly available, the structure had considerably expanded. A substantial telephone directory was also published, all of which must have been very useful to the Soviets. In 1980, the powers that be realised that this was a gift to the opposition, and abruptly stopped handing over their detailed ORBAT every year.


Deputy Commandant US Minister
Political Section
Economic Section
International Comms Agency
Berlin Air Safety Center
Consulate General
Administrative Section
Berlin Aeronautics Unit
Supreme Restitution Court
Commandant US Commander, Berlin Commander, US Army Berlin Deputy Chief, US Mission
Inspector General
Staff Judge Advocate
Equal Employment Opportunity Office
Commander, Berlin Brigade (INF) Deputy Commander, USAB Community Commander
Allied Staff Berlin
Berlin Area Exchange
Berlin MEDDAC
Berlin DENTAC
Tempelhof Central Airport
AFN Berlin
Field Station Berlin
Military Liaison Mission
Chief of Staff
Secretary General Staff
Headquarters Commandant
Deputy Brigade Commander
Support Services
Public Affairs Office
Communications - Electronics
Provost Marshall
Directorate of Engineering & Housing
Adjutant General
Civilian Personnel
Transportation
Maintenance
Supply & Service
Assistant Chief of Staff G1
Recreation Services
Chaplain
Assistant Chief of Staff G2 (INT)
Assistant Chief of Staff G3
Aviation Detachment
Assistant Chief of Staff G4
Procurement
Assistant Chief of Staff Comptroller
Special Troops Battalion
Headquarters & Headquarters Company
Service Company
42nd Engineer Company
287th MP Company
US Army Signal Support Company
298th Army Band
Helmstedt Support Company
Aviation Detachment
2nd, 3rd, & 4th BN 6th Infantry Regiment
Company F, 40th Armor
C Battery 94th Field Artillery
Detachment A
6941st Guard BN (LS)
Reporting Line
Coordination/General Staff Supervision

Berlin Command Organization Chart Summary, 1979.
G1 – General Staff Level office for Personnel and Manpower
G2 – General Staff Level office for Military Intelligence
G3 – General Staff Level office for Operations and Plans
G4 – General Staff Level office for Logistics
(Author, based on Berlin Command Organizational and Directory Chart, 1 January 1979 via theberlinobserver.com)

VI

The Men Behind the Names

All the main US installations in West Berlin were named after distinguished American soldiers. It was also the custom to name tanks after leading proponents of armoured warfare. However, it remains the convention in the US military that officers or enlisted men cannot be memorialised while they are still alive.

Andrews

Andrews Barracks, American Sector, West Berlin

Named after Lieutenant General Frank Maxwell Andrews, former commander of US Armed Forces in Europe and in charge of the build-up of US forces in England in preparation for D-Day. He was killed when his B-24 crashed over Iceland in 1943.[8]

Chaffee

M24 Chafee Light Tank

Named after Major General Adna R. Chaffee Jr. (1884–1941) who was known as the 'father' of the US Army's armoured force.[9]

Patton

Patton Barracks (later Oliver Barracks), American Sector, West Berlin

Named in honour of General George S. Patton, the famous Second World War general who commanded the Seventh United States Army in the Mediterranean, and the Third United States Army in France and Germany after the D-Day. Patton was killed in a road accident in Germany in December 1945. The barracks were renamed Oliver Barracks in 1946, but it is unclear who Oliver was. Patton is also memorialised in the Patton series of 'medium' and 'main battle' tanks: the M46 Patton; M47 Patton; M48 Patton; and unofficially, the M60.

Roberts

Thomas A. Roberts School, American Sector, West Berlin

Named after Colonel Thomas A Roberts, Jr., Commanding Officer, Division Artillery, 2nd Armored Division, killed in action on 4 August 1944.[10]

Roosevelt

Roosevelt Barracks, American Sector, West Berlin

Named after Brigadier General Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., the eldest son of US President Theodore 'Teddy' Roosevelt and assistant division commander of the 4th Infantry Division, US Army. He died of a heart attack in France on 12 July 1944 having led the first wave of troops ashore at Utah Beach on D-Day, receiving a posthumous Medal of Honor for his actions on that day.[11]

VII

US Duty Train Timetables September 1970 to May 1971[12]

Duty Train Berlin to Frankfurt

Berlin to Frankfurt DM 80610		
Station	**Arrive**	**Depart**
Berlin		2022
Wannsee	2050	2101
Potsdam	2113	2132
Marienborn	2341	2356
Helmstedt	0008	0023
Braunschweig	0049	0107
Kreiensen	0201	0210
Göttingen	0234	0236
Kassel	0325	0340
Marburg	0450	0455
Giessen	0515	0530
Bad Neuheim	0553	0556
Friedberg	0601	0602
Frankfurt	0653	

Duty Train Frankfurt to Berlin

Frankfurt to Berlin DM 80609		
Station	**Arrive**	**Depart**
Frankfurt		2036
Friedberg	2058	2100
Bad Neuheim	2104	2106
Giessen	2126	2133
Marburg	2151	2153
Kassel	2258	2306
Göttingen	2353	2355
Kreiensen	0018	0027
Braunschweig	0122	0131
Helmstedt	0158	0230
Marienborn	0242	0257
Potsdam	0542	0610
Wannsee	0623	0633
Berlin	0654	

Duty Train Berlin to Bremerhaven

Berlin to Bremerhaven DM 80638		
Station	**Arrive**	**Depart**
Berlin		2106
Wannsee	2132	2133
Potsdam	2145	2158
Marienborn	0016	0035
Helmstedt	0047	0134
Braunschweig	0201	0215
Hannover	0259	0354
Bremen	0518	0530
Bremerhaven	0626	

Duty Train Bremerhaven to Berlin

Bremerhaven to Berlin DM 80637		
Station	**Arrive**	**Depart**
Bremerhaven		2124
Bremen	2208	2215
Hannover	2339	2356
Braunschweig	0040	0048
Helmstedt	0114	0140
Marienborn	0201	0216
Potsdam	0430	0450
Wannsee	0503	0525
Berlin	0546	

Notes:

Light grey shaded stations are *inside* the DDR

Staatsgrenze = DDR border

Lay over times, such as at Marienborn, were where border formalities took place, locomotives changed over, or where trains would wait for an oncoming train to pass on the single track.

All times are in 24-hour clock.

Train numbers, the D states it is an 'Express' train, the M for a 'Military' train and is not related to the *Deutsche Mark* currency.

There was another set of timetables used by the train commander and the RTO/MP detachments at either end of the rail corridor which detailed the times the Duty Train should be passing the various stations across the DDR. The train commander checked the train's progress against the timetable and updates were radioed through to RTO headquarters in West Berlin and Helmstedt. Potsdam (the first station in the DDR when on the return leg) and Marienborn (the first station in the DDR on the outbound leg) were the only stops made while the train was crossing the DDR. Similar timetables existed for all four of the Duty Trains: DM 80610, DM 80609, DM 80638, and DM 80637.

Berlin to Helmstedt DM 80610		
Station	**Arrive**	**Depart**
Berlin Lichterfelde-West		2022
Berlin-Zehlendorf		2038
Berlin-Wannsee	2050	2101
Potsdam	2113	2132
Werder		2145
Kemnitz		2148
Groß-Kreutz		2152
Götz		2154
Gollwitz		2157
Brandenburg		2201
Malge		2206
Kirchmöser		2209
Wusterwitz		2211
Kade		2215
Belicke		2217
Genthin		2221
Altenplathow		2223
Bergzow-Parchen		2225
Parey		2227
Güsen		2229
Parchau		2232
Burg		2236
Detershagen		2237
Möser		2210
Gerwisch		2213
Biederitz		2216
Herrenkrug		2247
Brücke		2249
Magdeburg-Neustadt		2252
Magdeburg-Hauptbahnhof		2256
Magdeburg-Sudenburg		2259
Diesdorf		2301
Niederdodelben		2305
Wellen		2311
Ochtmersleben		2315
Dreileben-Drackenstedt		2317
Eilsleben		2326
Wefensleben		2335
Marienborn	2341	2356
Harbke		0004
Staatsgrenze		0005
Helmstedt	0008	0023

VIII

Instructions given to passengers on the American 'Duty Train' from West Germany to West Berlin[13]

IMPORTANT

CONDUCT ON BOARD MILITARY TRAINS

1. In accordance with USAREUR Circular 550-180, the following actions are prohibited aboard military trains:

a. Purchase or drinking of intoxicating liquor.
b. Jumping on or off moving trains.
c. Pulling emergency brakes (Notbremse) except in case of actual emergency.
d. Extending the head or limbs out of windows.
e. Throwing lighted cigarettes, cigars, matches or any dangerous or unsightly articles from trains.
f. Taking pictures between Berlin and Helmstedt.
g. Speaking to or attempting to converse with East German nationals or Soviet personnel while train is in the Soviet Zone of Germany.
h. Inconsiderate littering of compartments with refuse or food particles.

2. The privacy of an individual's compartment does not exempt him from compliance with the above directions.

REMINDERS

All passengers must be processed by the train commander prior to boarding the train. The train commander is located in the processing booth inside the RTO [Rail Transportation Office].

Please have your tickets, ID cards, passports and flag orders ready. Do not board the train until authorized to do so by a military policeman or the train commander.

On arrival at your destination, you must check and re-confirm your return booking with the local Berlin Booking Office. If you are traveling on a 'space-available" (non-duty) status, there is no guarantee regarding the type of accommodations you will be furnished on your return trip. Duty travelers have priority.

The military crew on board each passenger train is responsible for your safe passage throughout the entire trip. Your cooperation and compliance with the pertinent rules and regulations will insure you a safe and comfortable journey. For those of you who are coming to Berlin, we of the Berlin Brigade wish you a pleasant stay in the "divided city". For those of you leaving, "Auf Wiedersehen" and "Good Luck."

BERLIN DUTY TRAIN STAFF

Train Commander: A commissioned officer of the Berlin Brigade who is responsible for and in command of the Berlin duty train through the Soviet Zone of Germany. The train commander is on board only through the Soviet Zone, i.e.. to/from Helmstedt-Berlin.

US Train Conductor: A non-commissioned officer who acts as liaison between passengers and railway operating personnel and who exercises technical supervision over each train to insure the best possible service and comfort to the passengers.

Military Police: MPs are placed aboard Berlin trains to maintain law-and-order, provide security, and perform other duties as required.

Interpreter: A individual, fluent in Russian, who is designated to act as translator-interpreter for the train commander with Soviet checkpoint officer.

Radio Operator: Porters (Schaffner): West-German employees of Deutsche Schlafwagen-Gesellschaft (roughly equivalent to Pullman Co). Tipping is authorized for the personnel [stet] services rendered by these individuals.

Conductor (Zugfuehrer): Both East and West German conductors ride on the train in their respective areas.

TRANSPORTATION DIVISION
BERLIN BRIGADE
APO 09742

IX

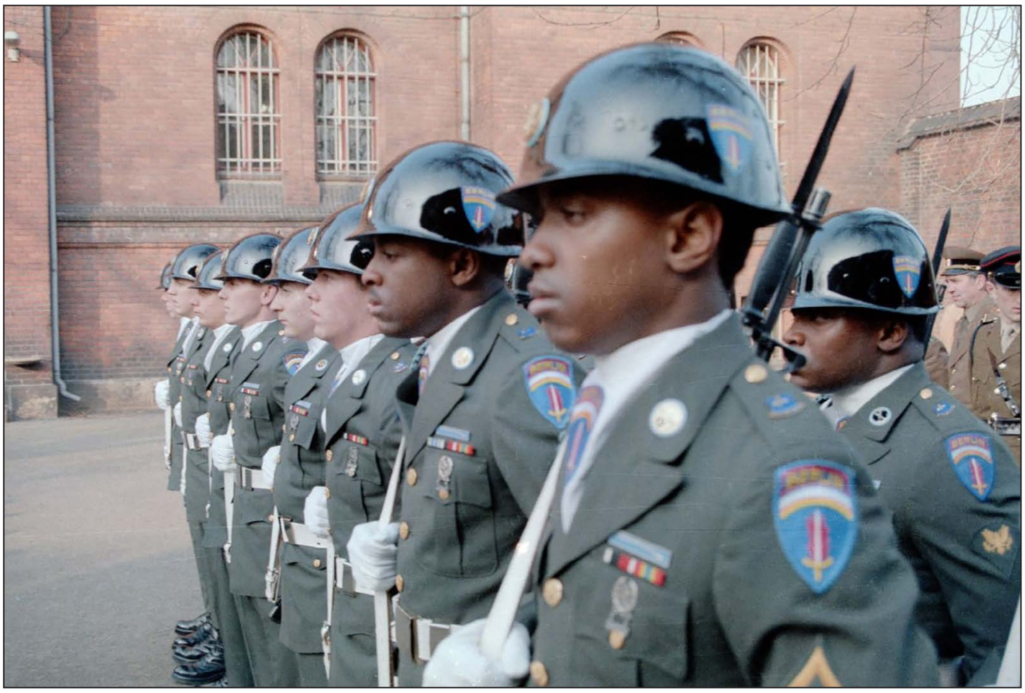
Heraldry

Heraldry, the 'system by which coats of arms and other armorial bearings are devised, described, and regulated', dates back to around the time of the Norman Conquest, and comes with its own arcane language and rules. Armorial bearings, the design on the shield or coat of arms, tell the story of the bearer's achievements and so form a key part of military heritage and lineage and are full of symbolism, a key component of a unit's identity. In the British Army, the identity and heritage are normally communicated via the regiment's cap badge, but also in unit patches, that are applied to uniforms. In the US Army, units have elaborate coats of arms, shields (known as a DUI, Distinctive Unit Insignia) and 'guidons', small pennant flags that identify sub-units. All DUIs have to be authorised by the US Army's Institute of Heraldry, which has regulated coats of arms since 1919.[14] It is of course ironic that the United States does not share the European medieval heritage that created heraldry in the first place. The US Air Force does not follow traditional heraldic principles but prides itself on creating distinctive insignia for its units.

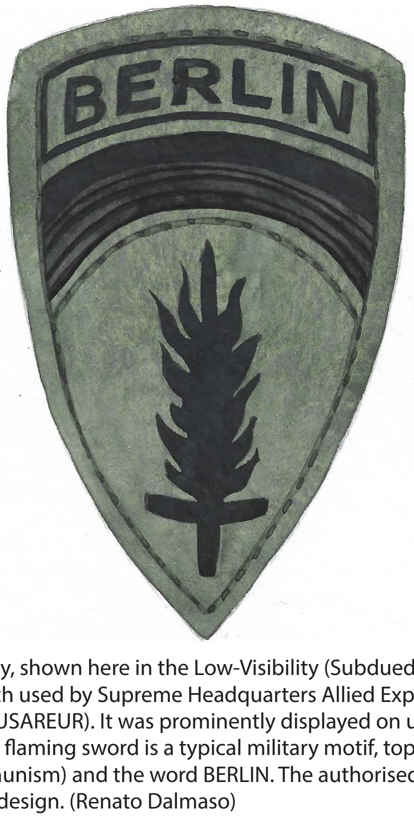
Berlin Brigade

The US Army had an insignia that unified all the different units serving in West Berlin worn on the left sleeve just below the shoulder – a 'Shoulder Sleeve Insignia.' The original and unofficial insignia for the first 'Berlin Military District' featured the Brandenburg Gate on a yellow background, with a red surround. However, this unofficial patch was soon replaced with an 'Authorized Distinctive Insignia' shoulder sleeve patch for the different iterations of the Berlin Command based on the insignia designed for General Dwight D. Eisenhower's Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF) during the Second World War (which was subsequently retained by the US Army Europe, USAREUR). Prior to VE Day, the background was black, but this was changed in 1945 to azure blue to symbolise a state of peace. Troops based in Berlin also adopted the SHAEF insignia, and in 1951, the word 'Berlin' was added above the crest to differentiate them from their West German based counterparts. Against the blue background is the sword of liberation in the form of a Crusader's sword, with flames arising from the hilt and leaping up the blade. The flames represent the avenging justice used to defeat their enemies (at the time, the Nazis). The rainbow above the sword represents the different national colours of the wartime Allies.[15] The 'heraldic' description is as follows: A dark blue Norman shield with curved top 4 inches in height and 2½ inches in width overall within a 1/8 inch dark blue border, palewise a double handed flaming sword 2 1/8 inches in length, hilt golden yellow, white blade, red flame, all below an arched chief ¼ inch sky blue, and a rainbow of five colours 5/16 inch overall: red, orange, yellow, green and dark blue in descending order, at the top on a dark blue arc edged red 5/8 inch in height the inscription "BERLIN" in yellow letters 3/8 inch in height. There was also a low-visibility 'subdued' version of the Berlin Brigade to wear on combat or camouflage uniforms.[16]

Other examples of US military heraldry can be seen throughout the book.



Changing of the guard in front of the Allied War Crimes Prison Berlin-Spandau: Replacement of the Soviet guard team by a team of the 502nd Infantry Regiment of the Berlin Brigade, Spandau, 1 December 1984. Note the Berlin Brigade path on their sleeves, scarves, and helmets. (US Army Berlin Brigade Visual Information Activity via Alliierten Museum)



Distinctive Unit Insignia of the Berlin Brigade, US Army, shown here in the Low-Visibility (Subdued) version worn on camouflaged uniforms, and in full colour in Chapter 2. The design builds on the patch used by Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF) during the Second World War and subsequently adapted for US Army Europe (USAREUR). It was prominently displayed on uniforms (sometimes multiple times) by all Berlin Brigade personnel, irrespective of their base unit. The flaming sword is a typical military motif, topped by a rainbow representing the Allied coalition that defeated the Nazis (which went on to face communism) and the word BERLIN. The authorised insignia was often supplemented by unofficial scrolls of individual units fitting across the top of the design. (Renato Dalmaso)

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Websites

16va.be – excellent site about the Soviet air force in Germany, but also good for Allied air operations

6941st-gdbn.com – site about the 6941st Guard Battalion

achh.army.mil – AMEDD Center of History and Heritage (ACHH) – US Army medical units

af.mil – official website of the US Air Force

afvdb.50megs.com – very useful database site on American tanks and armoured vehicles

alliiertenmuseum.de – The Allied Museum in Berlin

amerikaner-in-berlin.de

archives.gov – US National Archives

army.mil – official website of the US Army

avalon.law.yale.edu – Yale University legal document repository

berlin1969.com

berlin.de – official website of the City of Berlin (berlin.de/mauer on the Berlin Wall)

berlinbrats.org

berlin-brigade.com * – a useful site about the Berlin Brigade

berlin.museum-digital.de – digital collections of Berlin museums

berlinwallmap.info – useful interactive map site with the sectors and Berlin Wall as overlays

bpb.de – German Federal Agency for Civic Education

bundeswehr.de – official site of the (West) German Armed Forces

catalog.archives.gov – US National Archives catalogue

cia.gov – official website of the US Central Intelligence Agency

cgsc.contentdm.oclc.org – Ike Skelton Combined Arms Research Library Digital Library

coldwardecoded.blogspot.com

coldwaroutpost.com

coldwarspies.com * – website about the Military Liaison Missions, especially the USMLM

cvce.eu – University of Luxembourg European and Cold War document repository

defense.gov – official website of the US Department of Defense (The Pentagon)

fas.org – Federation of American Scientists

fbi.gov – official website of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation

fsbvg.homestead.com – Field Station Berlin Vets group

gov.uk – official website of the British Government

guardbattalion.de – a site dedicated to the 6941st Guard Battalion

history.army.mil – US Army Center of Military History (CMH)

history.state.gov – official website of the Office of the Historian, US Department of State

lib.byu.edu/collections/digital – Brigham Young University digital repository

loc.gov – US Library of Congress

maps.berlin-brigade.com *

mauer-fotos.de – Berlin Wall Photos (part of Berlin Wall Foundation)

med-dept.com – a site dedicated to US Army Medical History

mil-airfields.de – detailed information on West and East German airfields

militaryhorse.org – Society of the Military Horse

militaryfactory.com – useful general military source

military-history.fandom.com – useful general military source

military-today.com – useful general military source

museum-karlshorst.de – a Berlin Museum focusing on the Soviet/Russian presence

nationalarchives.gov.uk – the British National Archives

nationalmuseum.af.mil – National Museum of the US Air Force

nato.int – North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO

nsa.gov – official website of the US National Security Agency

nsarchive2.gwu.edu – National Security Archive – excellent intelligence primary source site

rand.org – The Rand Corporation – US defence analysts

rijmenants.blogspot.com stiftung-berliner-mauer.de – Berlin Wall Foundation

stasi-unterlagen-archiv.de – The *Stasi* archives

tanks-encyclopedia.com – very useful site on tanks and armoured vehicles

theberlinobserver.com – digital archives of *The Berlin Observer* newspaper

thf-berlin.de – Tempelhof Airport

tioh.army.mil – US Army Institute of Heraldry

usarmygermany.com – a very comprehensive source on the US Army in Cold War Germany

usconstabulary.com – useful site about the US Constabulary

voicesunderberlin.com – Berlin SIGINT operations

wegderdemokratie.de – Bonn history site

western-allies-berlin.com – very useful intelligence blog

* Does not appear to be an active site, although content is still interesting.

Podcasts

The author highly recommends the Cold War Conversations podcast, available on all major podcast platforms. Ian Sanders and his guests present first-hand accounts of the Cold War which are both compelling and very informative. See more at www.coldwarconversations.com. He also recommends East Germany Podcast – Radio GDR. See more at www.eastgermanypodcast.com.

News and media websites

bbc.co.uk/.com – British Broadcasting Corporation
deutschlandfunk.de – German public service broadcaster
dw.com – Deutsche Welt
nytimes.com – New York Times
spiegel.de – Der Spiegel
washingtonpost.com – The Washington Post
wsj.com – The Wall Street Journal

NOTES

Introduction

1 Dönitz was sentenced to 10 years in prison at the Nuremberg war crimes trials and was imprisoned at Spandau Prison in Berlin along with six other former Nazis. He was released in 1956, and spent his retirement in relative obscurity in Germany, dying of a heart attack in 1980.
2 Jodl was convicted of war crimes at Nuremberg and was hanged on 16 October 1946.
3 *Enactments and Approved Papers of the Control Council and Coordinating Committee, Allied Control Authority, Germany, 1945, Volume 1*, pp. 6–7 (Legal Division, Office of Military Government for Germany (US)) via US Library of Congress, <loc.gov/rr/frd/Military_Law/Enactments/Volume-I.pdf> accessed 15 January 2022.
4 <museum-karlshorst.de/en/> accessed 2 January 2022.
5 Keitel was convicted of war crimes at Nuremberg and was hanged on 16 October 1946.
6 *Enactments and Approved Papers of the Control Council and Coordinating Committee, 1945, Volume 1*, pp. 8–9.
7 <nationalgeographic.com/history/article/germany-surrendered-twice-world-war-ii> accessed 2 January 2022.
8 <cvce.eu/obj/agreement_between_the_allies_on_control_machinery_in_germany_london_14_november_1944-en-ec18fd66-c681-44ee-baad-97555abffd4f.html> accessed 9 January 2022.
9 <avalon.law.yale.edu/wwii/yalta.asp> accessed 9 January 2022.
10 Robert L. Gunnarsson Sr., *American Military Police in Europe, 1945–1991* (Jefferson, NC, USA: McFarland & Company, 2011).
11 *The Story of the Berlin Brigade, US Command Berlin and US Army Berlin* (US Army, Berlin Pamphlet, 870-2, 1981), and Gunnarsson.
12 An average speed of 18kph, 10mph, reflecting the poor state of the German infrastructure after almost six years of war.
13 Parks Range, the US fighting city in Berlin, was named after him.

Chapter 1

1 <avalon.law.yale.edu/wwii/ger01.asp> accessed 7 January 2022.
2 *Enactments and Approved Papers of the Control Council and Coordinating Committee, Volume 1*.
3 With the arrival of Major General Keating in May 1946, the direct connection between Commanding General, Berlin and the unit(s) forming the garrison was severed. Apart from Major General Ryan's short tenure and the odd additional exception, postings as city commandant were typically two or three years long.
4 No relation to Cornelius Ryan, the Irish American author who wrote *The Longest Day*, which was made into a blockbuster movie in 1962.
5 <army.mil/article/216006/gen_lucius_d_clay_a_brilliant_administrator> accessed 7 January 2022.
6 Communiqué was not issued until 29 December 1948 <cvce.eu/obj/final_communique_of_the_six_power_conference_on_the_establishment_of_the_international_authority_for_the_ruhr_london_28_december_1948-en-b0eb504f-8263-4b4f-b539-9c911f247f7e.html > accessed 14 January 2022.
7 See Volume 1 of the *Cold War Berlin: An Island City* mini-series for a fuller description of the blockade and the ensuing Allied airlift.
8 <nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm> accessed 10 January 2022.
9 *Official Gazette of the Allied High Commission for Germany*. 23.09.1949, n° 1. Bonn-Petersberg: Allied High Commission for Germany. *Text of Occupation Statute promulgated on 12th May 1949 by the Military Governors and Commanders in Chief of the Western Zones*, p. 13–15. Via <cvce.eu/obj/text_of_the_occupation_statute_of_germany_bonn_12_may_1949-en-6750efd3-4b34-4fec-9a4a-df0ff125d302.html> accessed 10 January 2022.
10 <cvce.eu/obj/charter_of_the_allied_high_commission_for_germany_paris_20_june_1949-en-167b9841-e83a-46db-be6f-829c484f8e16.html> accessed 14 January 2022.
11 <cvce.eu/obj/communique_on_germany_new_york_19_september_1950-en-b99fc411-cb50-48b6- b0b9-74597a363cb7.html> accessed 15 January 2022.
12 The American Journal of International Law, Vol. 46, No. 1 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, January 1952), pp. 114–119.
13 <cvce.eu/obj/convention_on_relations_between_the_three_powers_and_the_frg_bonn_26_may_1952-en-b1885d93-c91a-4fa7-80bd-e1d3b3171b87.html> accessed 14 January 2022.
14 <cvce.eu/obj/convention_on_relations_between_the_three_powers_and_the_frg_paris_23_october_1954-en-13be5893-05f5-4008-ad66-48e484539a6b.html> accessed 14 January 2022.
15 <wegderdemokratie.de/en/deichmannsaue> accessed 11 January 2022.
16 <nato.int/cps/en/natohq/declassified_185912.htm?selectedLocale=en> accessed 13 January 2022.
17 Vojtech Mastny and Malcolm Byrne (Eds), *A Cardboard Castle, an inside history of the Warsaw Pact, 1955–1991* (Budapest: Central European University Press, 2005).
18 <bundeswehr.de/en/about-bundeswehr/history/establishment-of-the-bundeswehr> accessed 11 January 2022.

Chapter 2

1 *The Story of the Berlin Brigade* (US Army).

Chapter 3

1 Major Kenneth O. McCreedy, *Military Intelligence, Planning the Peace: Operation Eclipse and the Occupation of Germany* (School of Advanced Military Studies, United States Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenwoth, Kansas, USA, 1995).
2 The exact timing of Major General Barker's move to head the 78th Infantry Division is unclear, but it appears that his predecessor Major General Edwin P. Parker Jr. had already moved to his new assignment before the 78th came to Berlin.

3 The Old Guard would be reactivated on 6 April 1948 at Fort Myer, Virginia.
4 Sources on US Constabulary: Kendall D. Gott, *Mobility, Vigilance, and Justice: The US Army Constabulary in Germany, 1946–1953* (Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, USA: Combat Studies Institute Press, 2005); Michael A. Rauer, The United States Constabulary in Post War Germany (*Army History*, Summer 1998, No. 45 Summer 1998, pp. 22–35) via <jstor.org/stable/26304800>; David A. Kaufman, *Mobility, Vigilance, and Justice: The US Army Constabulary in Germany, 1946 – 1952* (Fort Belvoir, VA, USA, The Army Historical Foundation, National Museum of the United States Army, undated); DAMH-FPO, *The US Constabulary in Post-War Germany, 1946–1952* (Fort McNair, DC, USA: United States Army Center of Military History, April 2000); Headquarters, European Command Historians, *History of the U. S. Constabulary 10 Jan 46–31 Dec 46* (Fort McNair, DC, USA: United States Army Center of Military History, 1947) Ref: 8-3.1 CA 37; Gunnarsson.
5 Patton enjoyed designing distinctive uniforms for his men, a trait which Harmon inherited.
6 The American M1 helmet was in two parts – an outer shell made of steel, providing a degree of ballistic protection for the user, with an inner liner, shaped like the steel outer but made from a hard fibrous Bakelite-type material, which could be worn as a headdress but offered little protection. It was the liner that tended to get the fancy paint jobs, while the more practical steel outer was camouflaged or covered in netting or cloth.
7 The Willys MB or Ford GPW, powered by a Willys L134 'Go-Devil' Straight-4 L-head petrol engine with a 3-speed transmission (high, low, and reverse) producing 60bhp and a top speed of 45mph. Used extensively during the Second World War and Korea by the US and Allied forces through Lend-Lease.
8 *The US Constabulary in Post-War Germany*, April 2000.
9 Gunnarsson.
10 The correct NATO phonetic spelling for the letter A is Alfa, as opposed to Alpha, which is commonly used.
11 *The International Herald Tribune*, 21 August 1997 via the *New York Times*.
12 Gunnarsson, and <army.togetherweserved.com/army/servlet/tws.webapp. WebApp?cmd=PublicUnitProfile&type=Unit&ID=67343> accessed 25 January 2022.
13 Gunnarsson, and army.togetherweserved.com
14 Colonel Willard was commanding officer of the Berlin Military Post and took command of the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) during the transition from the US Constabulary to the US Army Berlin garrison.
15 Gunnarsson.
16 The US created a joint Army/Navy phonetic alphabet (Able, Baker, Charlie, Dog Easy etc) in 1941. To make the alphabet more recognisable across English, French and Spanish, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) created a new alphabet in 1951 for use in civil aviation (Alfa, Bravo, Coca, Delta, Echo etc), which was replaced in 1956 by the NATO phonetic alphabet (Alfa, Bravo, Charlie, Delta, Echo etc).
17 Gunnarsson.
18 The conference was attended by John Foster Dulles for the United States, Anthony Eden for Great Britain, Georges Bidault for France, and Vyacheslav Molotov for the Soviet Union.
19 The 287th MP Company was reactivated on 17 February 2008 at Fort Riley, Kansas under the 1st Infantry Division.
20 Gunnarsson.
21 Len Deighton's 1964 thriller *Funeral in Berlin* is set around a shadowy escape organisation, and was brought to life in the 1966 movie of the same name directed by Guy Hamilton and starring Michael Caine as Harry Palmer.
22 Correspondence with Dan Hermann (ex 298th Army Band) and Robert Rynerson (ex RTO), both based at Andrews Barracks (May 2022).
23 <britishpathe.com/video/VLVAELPSMQ3RAPGOSJJUAVMSBVJW0-GERMANY-HISTORY-OF-HORSE-PLATOON-287TH-MILITARY-POLICE-COMPANY/query/Garrison> accessed 25 January 2022.
24 <archive.ph/20120730061720/http://www.berlin-brigade.de/us-ins/us-ein13.html%2324mar#selection-2777.1-2801.749>, <stripes.com/news/steinstu-cken-berlin-s-own-little-island-1.361180> and <berlin.de/mauer/geschichte/gebietsaustausch/steinstuecken/>, accessed 10 February 2022.
25 Donald A. Carter, *Forging the Shield, The US Army in Europe, 1951–1962* (Washington D.C.: Center of Military History, United States Army, 2015).
26 Agreement between the Government of the German Democratic Republic and the Senate on the resolution of the issue of enclaves through territorial exchange, 3 September 1971 (*Vereinbarung zwischen der Regierung der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik und dem Senat über die Regelung der Frage von Enklaven durch Gebietsaustausch*).
27 <nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_17265.htm> accessed 19 December 2021.
28 <army.mil/article/227245/status_of_forces_agreement_what_is_it_and_who_is_eligible> accessed 19 December 2021.
29 <nam.ac.uk/explore/occupation-and-reconstruction-germany-1945-48> accessed 19 December 2021.
30 <guardbattalion.de> accessed 30 January 2022.
31 <bundeswehr.de/en/about-bundeswehr/history/establishment-of-the-bundeswehr> accessed 19 December 2021.
32 <guardbattalion.de/index.php/kurzfassung-zum-schusswaffengebrauch> accessed 27 December 2021.

Chapter 4

1 <nytimes.com/2020/02/19/magazine/blacks-wwii-racism-germany.html> accessed 2 May 2022.
2 The Zinnowwald Schule reverted to being a school in 1950 and is currently a primary school (zinnowwaldschule.de).
3 Sources: <usarmygermany.com>, <med-dept.com/unit-histories/101st-general-hospital/> and <achh.army.mil/history/book-wwii-279sh45-279thsh1945> all accessed 2 May 2022.
4 ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL ACTIVITIES FOR 1945 279TH (US) STATION HOSPITAL APO755 US ARMY REGISTRY NUMBER WD-84, US National Archives via AMEDD Center of History and Heritage.
5 The 7th Medical Command was succeeded in 1994 by the Regional Health Command Europe, part of US Army Medical Command <rhce.amedd.army.mil/AboutRHCE/about.html> accessed 2 May 2022.

Chapter 5

1 <thf-berlin.de/en/> accessed 19 April 2022.
2 Before the Second World War, the Tempelhof site had been home to Columbia-Haus, an *SS* and *Gestapo* prison and subsequently a concentration camp for political undesirables, communists, social democrats, intellectuals, democrats, homosexuals, and Jews. Erich Honecker, the future leader of the DDR was imprisoned there.

3 For a fuller account of the Berlin Airlift see Volume 1 of this mini-series.
4 Thomas S. Snyder (ed.), *Air Force Communications Command: 1938–1991. An Illustrated History, Third Edition* (Scott Air Force Base, IL.: AFCC Office of History, 1991) and *USAF Unit Histories: 1946 Communications Squadron* (Maxwell AFB, Alabama: Air Force Historical Research Agency, US Air Force, 2021).

Chapter 6

1 Keith R. Allen, *Interrogation Nation, Refugees and Spies in Cold War Germany* (Lanham, MD.: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2017).
2 US Intelligence on Europe, Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2015 <http://primarysources.brillonline.com/browse/us-intelligence-on-europe>.

Chapter 7

1 The British garrison subsequently referred to the supermarket as Hessco, a play on the British supermarket chain Tesco.
2 Judy G. Endicott, *Raid on Libya: Operation ELDORADO CANYON, Short of War USAF Contingency Operations 1947–1997* (Maxwell AFB, Alabama: Air Force History and Museums Program, 2000); Walter J. Boyne, Eldorado Canyon (*Air Force Magazine*, March 1999); and Susan Flood (ed.), Bombing of the La Belle Discotheque: Anatomy of a Terrorist Incident (*International Terrorism: Policy Implications*, pp. 163–175, 1991)
3 The incident that prompted this change in policy (the current version of the Purple Heart was introduced in 1932) was the 23 October 1983 Beirut Barracks bombing that killed 241 American service personnel and injured more than 100. A few minutes later, another bomb killed 58 French paratroopers across the city. In April of that year, another suicide bomber killed 63 people including 17 Americans at the US Embassy in the city, heralding the start of a dangerous escalation in extremist international terror activity.
4 *The Berlin Observer*, Vol. 42, No. 21, May 30, 1986.
5 Kellerhof and Kostka, *Capital of Spies* and <dw.com/en/berlins-la-belle-nightclub-bombing-remembered-25-years-on/a-14965254> accessed 8 April 2022.
6 Correspondence with Robert Rynerson, ex RTO, 1969 (May 2022).
7 <usarmygermany.com> accessed 15 April 2022.
8 John Penman Jones, *Night Train to Berlin*, Army Digest (Washington D.C.: The Department of the Army, August 1969) pp. 26–27.
9 A similar radio set-up, this time mounted in a truck, accompanied the US Army road convoy that made the crossing every week.
10 Gunnarsson.
11 <withberlinlove.com/2015/12/08/checkpoint-alpha-the-abc-of-berlin-checkpoints/> accessed 18 December 2021.
12 Major Nicholson was shot dead by a Soviet sentry while on a USMLM inside East Germany on 24 March 1985.
13 <alliiertenmuseum.de/en/museum/?page&pagename=museum> accessed 15 February 2022.
14 Major William E. Burns, US Army, *Social Handbook (Berlin Brigade)* – 'While there is something for everyone here, this little pamphlet is mainly for the Berlin Brigade ladies.'
15 During the 1920s and 1930s, Harnack House was a scientific institute that boasted Max Planck, Albert Einstein, Max von Laue, Werner Heisenberg, Otto Hahn and Lise Meitner amongst its members.

Appendices

1 <de.usembassy.gov/previous-ambassadors-and-chiefs-of-mission/> accessed 10 January 2022.
2 *The Story of the Berlin Brigade* (US Army), and Robert P. Grathwol and Donita M. Moorhus, *American Forces in Berlin 1945–1990, Cold War Outpost* (Washington D.C.: Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program Cold War Project, 1994).
3 Major General Maxwell D. Taylor was the first US Commander, Berlin (USCOB).
4 *The Story of the Berlin Brigade* (US Army), and Grathwol and Moorhus.
5 Brigadier General Frederick O. Hartel was the first commander of the US Army Berlin Brigade.
6 Grathwol and Moorhus.
7 <theberlinobserver.com/BBde/BBcommandcharts.htm> accessed 5 February 2022.
8 <nationalmuseum.af.mil/Visit/Museum-Exhibits/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/196933/lt-gen-frank-m-andrews/> accessed 24 April 2022.
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11 *Medal of Honor recipients* 1863–1963 (Washington D.C.: Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, United States Senate, 1964) pp. 930–931.
12 R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com
13 R.W. Rynerson, berlin1969.com
14 <tioh.army.mil> accessed 18 January 2022.
15 *The Story of Berlin Brigade, USCOB/USAB Pamphlet 870-2* (Berlin, Military History Branch G3, US Command Berlin and US Army Berlin, 1981).
16 The Institute of Heraldry, US Army, Cameron Station, Alexandria, Virginia.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrew Long is a military historian and author. His fascination with the Cold War began with a trip to East Berlin in 1986, travelling through the famous Checkpoint CHARLIE. Andrew's writing comes from a desire to make sense of an extremely complex period in modern history, weaving together inter-relating stories involving politics, ideologies, personalities, intelligence, technological advances, and geography. There is still much to be told on this fascinating subject. After a successful career in marketing, Andrew relocated to Cornwall and took up writing full time. This is Andrew's third book in a series of titles for Helion & Company' Europe@War series.